THE CHINA WEEKLY REVIEW

密勒氏評論報

A Weekly Newspaper Established in 1917

April 10, 1948

THE WEB TIGHTENS

AN EDITORIAL

The "Special Criminal Courts"

C. Y. W. Meng

Island Experiment

Is Taiwan China's El Dorado?

Lin Wo-chiang

Austerity Needed Here

AN EDITORIAL

VOLUME 109 CNC$50,000 NUMBER 6

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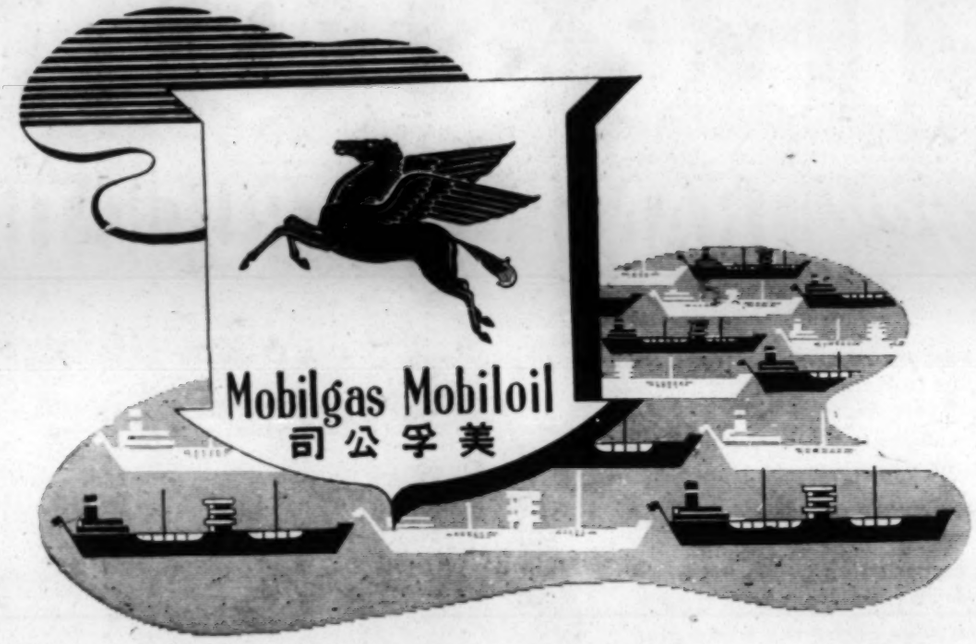

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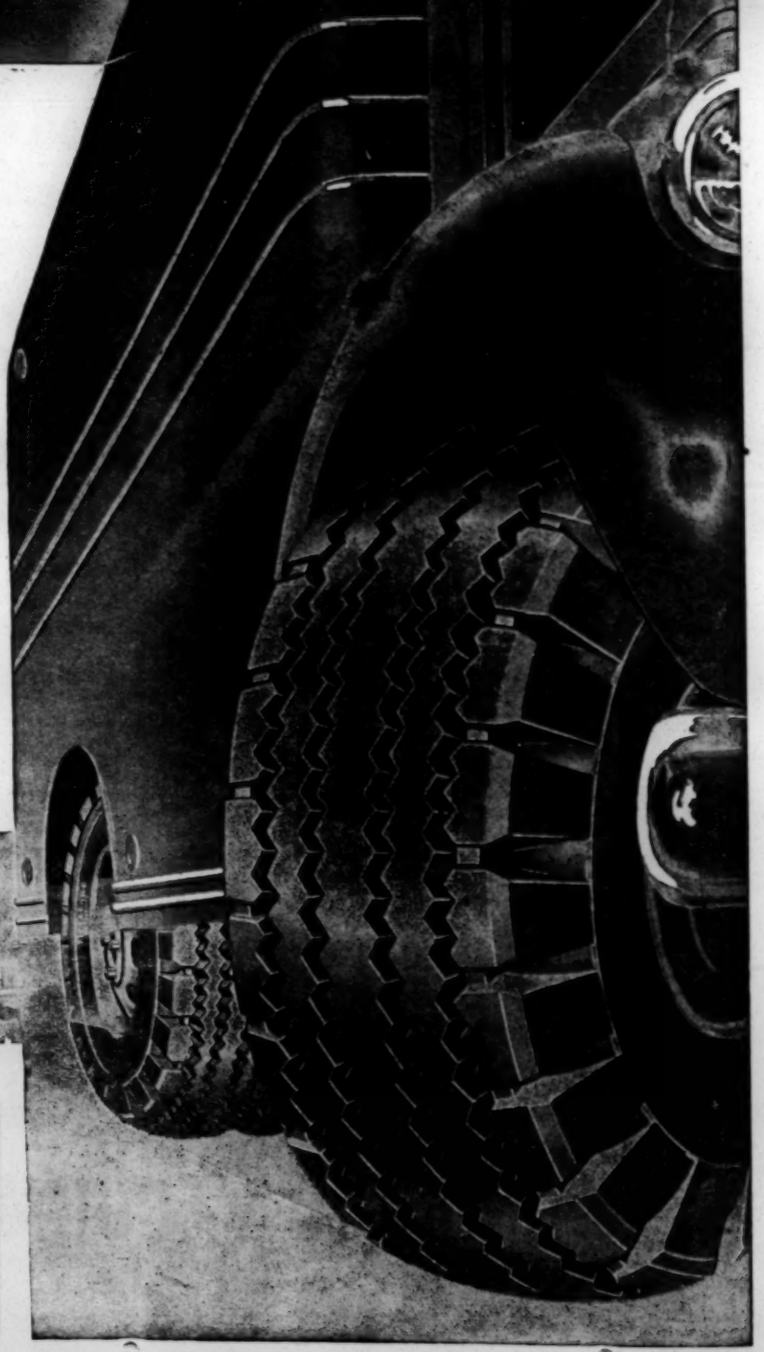

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LETTERS From The People

Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of The China Weekly Review.

Soldier's Freedom

To The Editor:

Having been a subscriber to your *Review* for nearly one year, I have made great progress in my English and acquired a lot of international knowledge.

As a cadet, I am tied to military rules and am not allowed to read *Ta Kung Pao, The Observer, Time & Culture* and the like. Your *Review*, doubtlessly, would also be considered "dangerous" if it were in Chinese. Because of the officials' ignorance of English, I have the chance to read your paper and learn what is actually going on in this world. In this respect, I should say I am quite fortunate.

But being a cadet with scanty salary, I cannot afford to subscribe to your paper any more. One of your American subscribers had been kind enough to renew my subscrition for three months, but it is about to expire. I am sorry that I can do nothing but sigh at my hard lot.

CHEW GAN.

Kwanhsain, Szechuen,
March 30, 1948.

An Unbeatable Force

To The Editor:

It is undeniable that with the rapid increase of commodity prices, the salaried class is now on the verge of starvation. Their appeal for immediate improvement of their livelihood is natural and imperative.

Under such circumstances, robbery, theft and the like should no longer be thought of as a crime. The reason is that whenever people are unable to live in their accustomed way, they have to find some way out, as long as they are inspired by a natural desire for existence.

Not long ago, a "sit-down strike" was called by the four national banks' employees, demanding that their pay be raised to a comparatively reasonable level to enable them to make both ends meet. Their demands were not complied with and the disappearance of three employees who led the strike was the result.

The seriousness of the situation was intensified by another strike called by the other employees who were greatly provoked by a strong sense of justice as a protest against the encroachment of human rights by the local headquarters which is in direct contradiction to the announced Constitution.

The managers promised to make an all-out effort for them; but up to now, nothing about the arrested persons has been heard.

Now all employees have returned to office as usual. Their hearts are as heavy as stone, each expressing their inexpressible regret for the disappearance of the three cordial and warm-hearted associates who are presumed to have contributed their lives to the cause of the majority.

Involved in this strike in the four banks were the employees of low rank who are living poorly on their scanty salaries and a few high ranking employees also living on their salaries.

THE CHINA WEEKLY REVIEW

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The remainder, who are mostly managers who are given western-styled houses, automobiles and servants by the banks and whose incomes are much more than their fixed salaries, showed little sign of enthusiasm in this matter.

The men in power are as well treated as those bankers. That is why they like to put such labels as "Communist spy" and "Communist sympathizer" on the innocent and helpless people, instead of taking the trouble to study the real causes which create their conduct.

In most cases, I am convinced, they are neither pro-Communist nor anti-KMT, their political background being their empty stomachs. I also feel that in this world only the poor, the weak and the oppressed may understand each other.

It is time that the poor, the weak and the oppressed unite in an unbeatable force to fight those who oppress and torture them. They should revolutionize this sinful world, in which they have been so long persecuted, into a thoroughly new world in which they may enjoy human rights.

Hold your hands fast and victory will be yours!

L.C.

Nanchang, Kiangsi,
March 22, 1948.

Trouble In Fukien

To The Editor:

...Shihshih, Tsinkiang, in Fukien province was the home village of many Overseas Chinese. During World War II, the majority of the families of the Overseas Chinese had a difficult life because their support from abroad was broken. After VJ Day, however, these people became millionaires.....Many Overseas Chinese are respected for their endurance and frugality. Those living here, however, do not possess these traits. They lead a luxurious life and this causes the rising of commodity prices in Tsinkiang.

These people are not well-educated. They are superstitious, pugnacious and quarrelsome. Fighting among themselves over trifles usually results in someone being killed or wounded....On one occasion, the fighting was on such a large scale that the policemen who were sent to suppress it were captured. Not until the local Government had reinforced a battalion of soldiers and arrested a few leaders of both sides was the fighting brought under control.

If the local authorities cannot adopt suitable steps to liquidate their fighting and superstitious practices, this village will become a source of evil. In my opinion, the best remedy is to extend social education.

WANG TING-FENG.

Tsinkiang, Fukien,
March 20, 1948.

No Censor

To The Editor:

In China, only British or American edited papers can tell the truth and criticize the authorities, while Chinese are under strict censorship and pressure. Your *Review*, one of the best English language magazines in China, is good reading material for us middle school students....I have translated some of the articles in the *Review* into Chinese for the school wall papers. Though these translations were very poorly done, they were welcomed.

In view of the recent military, political and economic developments in this country, I think we should pay more attention to those neglected provinces, such as Hunan and Kiangsi. If it is possible, I suggest, that a special correspondent of the *Review* be stationed at Changsha or Kiukiang, so that the

readers may have some genuine information about what is going on in those places.

C. W.

Chungking, Szechuan,
March 24, 1948.

World Peace Wanted

To The Editor:

All the people of the world are longing for peace, but at the same time, they are preparing for war. Some people with their powerful financial backgrounds devote themselves to making profits, caring nothing for the poor. As a result, the latter have to fight at whatever expense to maintain their livelihoods.

America, China and all other anti-communist nations should make an agreement with the Red nations immediately to maintain peace in this world. To force China to communism is of no good to America as well as to the world. Only in peace, the people of the whole world can live happily and peacefully.

HSU CHIEN-KUO.

Liuchow, Kwangsi,
March 22, 1948.

Babies For Sale

To The Editor:

One catty of flour in Kaifeng, has risen from CNC$7,000 to CNC$55,000 within the past four weeks. The Communists take away all foodstuffs from their newly-occupied towns; the KMT forces impose tax in kind on the people wherever they go. No one cares for the people; alive or dead, they are left to themselves. . . .

Three women here want to sell their three babies for CNC$8,000,000, CNC$-5,000,000 and CNC$6,000,000 respectively. . . .

JOHN.

Kaifeng, Honan,
March 23, 1948.

N.A. At Nanking

To The Editor:

The National Assembly as scheduled was held on March 29. Our honorable delegates representing the people of all of China except those in the Communist-occupied areas gathered in Nanking from various places. Their arrival among a small number of people who are absolutely indifferent to the sufferings brought a pandemonium of applause of the masses....

In honor of these so-called spokesmen of the people, the whole city of Nanking put on a new gala dress. Streets and lanes which had hitherto been neglected were paved. Signs indicating the bus routes were put up for the convenience of the delegates. But to the astonishment of the poor refugees, they were not allowed to share the rare chance of seeing their own delegates at their best or even linger a single minute in the city. Under the pretext that their appearance would spoil the beauty and order of the capital and that some Communists might be among them under disguise, they were driven out of the city before the delegates arrived. It was rumored that the Communists were planning a riot in Nanking on the occasion of the opening of the National Assembly.

Several party men and high officials are required to compete for the post of vice president (the post of president is destined to be left for President Chiang Kai-shek). Those who have announced their intentions to participate in the vice presidential election campaign are: President Yu Yu-jen of the Control Yuan; General Li Chung-jen, director of the Generalissimo's Headquarters in Peiping; and General Cheng Chien, director of

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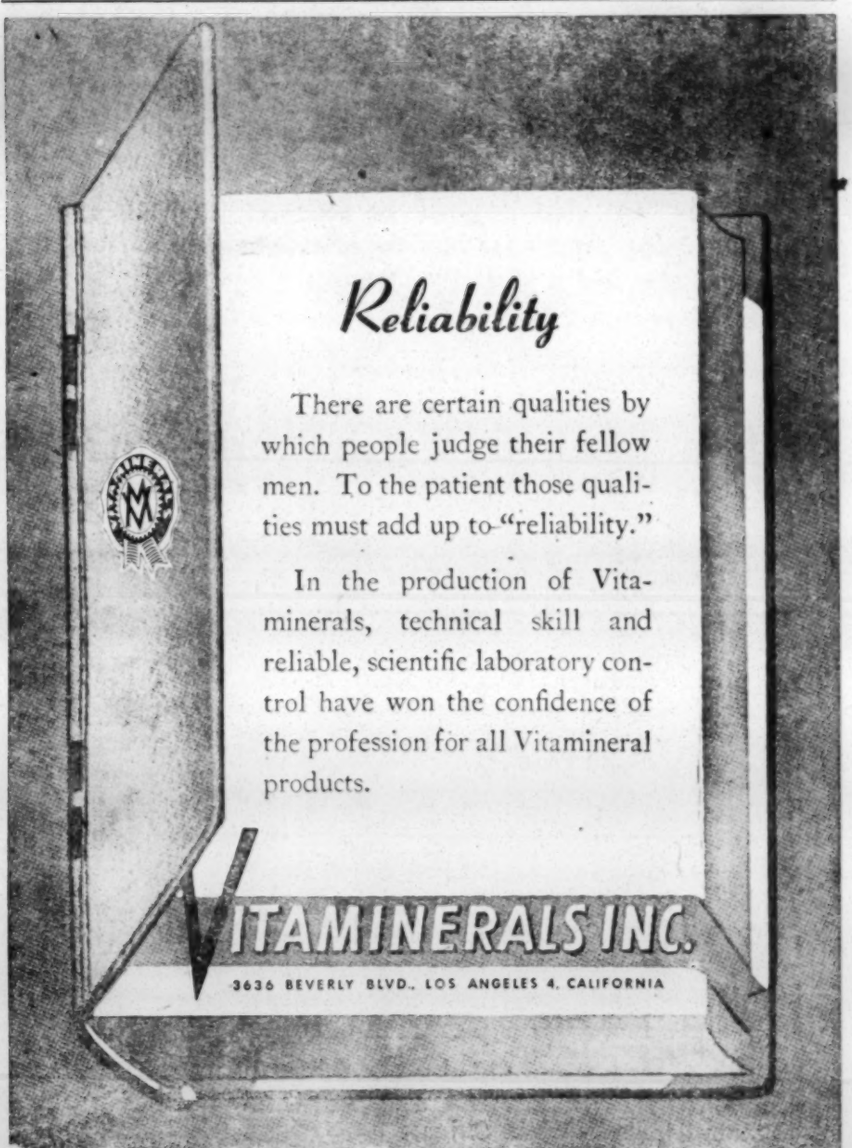
the Generalissimo's Headquarters in Hankow. General Cheng Chien, as it is understood, will get the majority of votes in Central China. General Li Chung-jen is said to have won the applause and support of the army of the Kwangsi clique and the people of that province, together with a part of North China where for the last two years, he acted as a democratic military leader. President Yu Yu-jen, one of the oldest party men, is supported by his Control Yuan members, the natives of the Northwest and many newspaper men (President Yu is a former journalist), and is supposed to be a strong rival for his competitors.

Several days ago, Mr. Kung Te-peh, editor of the *Chu Kuo Jih Pao* said in a speech to the students of the National Political University that a certain participant in the vice presidential election had spent or was ready to spend CNC$150,000,000,000 for his election activities, half of this sum was to be given to the National Assembly delegates as bribes, and the other half to the local papers for propaganda for him. "CNC$500,000,000 was alloted to the *Chu Kuo Jih Pao*," concluded Mr. Kung, "but I refused it. I am responsible for what I have said."

According to the writer's opinion derived from the present situation in China and in the United States, however, Dr. Hu Shih, who is an American-educated scholar and well-liked by the Americans, may be the very person suitable to be nominated and elected as vice president despite the fact that he has announced that he will not enter into politics. This fact remains to be seen.

K. C. CHANG.

Nanking,
March 25, 1948.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24 Catties Loss

To The Editor:

....I am one of the unfortunate petty Government employees suffering constantly from the ever fluctuating prices. Recently I sold 60 catties of husked rice out of my pay and remitted the proceeds of CNC$900,000 to my old parents at home in Fatshan, a town near Canton. Immediately on my sending the money, the rice price started a most sensational jump and in a matter of four or five days it reached a new height of CNC$2,650,000 from CNC$150,000 per picul. Thus, when the remittance was drawn from the post office a few days later, it was only enough to buy 36 catties of rice, which is scarcely sufficient to keep my parents alive for a month? I have sustained losses of this nature quite frequently.

It seems to me that all a lao pai hsing like me can do under the present circumstances is merely hope that national peace will soon be attained so that the evils of the times under which the people are suffering may be readily remedied.

KIN.

Sunwoi, Kwangtung,
March 29, 1948.

Unknown Facts

To The Editor:

....Jack James, in his "The Shameen Incident" printed in the February 7 issue of the *Review*, gave the Shameen Incident a true coverage. But he omitted some points and thus I want to supplement his report.

It is certain that the Government did not want or expect the demonstration to go so far as to burn the British Consulate. However, it cannot be denied that the Government not only supported the parade, but also took a leading part in its making. Pressure to push their students to demonstrate was exerted by the provincial minister of education on the principals of the high schools. Except for a few government special agents, the students were very cool towards this government-sponsored parade; but they were forced to participate in it.

....It was the CC clique members (pointed out by Mr. James as the extreme reactionary faction in the government) who took an active part in fanning the masses to run to an extreme. It was the Youth Corps demonstrators who left no stone unturned to hinder the fire-brigade men from putting down the conflagration.

The purpose of this action by the CC clique was to embarrass Governor T. V. Soong, to remind the Hongkong Government to expell the political exiles from that island and to shift the peoples's attention from domestic affairs to external difficulties....

The Kowloon Affair is still hanging in the balance, therefore the above information is probably of some value to those who are interested in it.

H. K.

Kaiping, Kwangtung
March 28, 1948.

Freedom From Fear

To The Editor:

Last November two sisters, both college girls, were slain with a hatchet by their sister-in-law who, after murdering them, hanged herself. Early in January this year, two sons of a rich tailor were kidnapped and murdered by their cousin. Six persons were mysteriously strangled to death at midnight March 26 in Peiping. The persons killed in this recent case were a rich rice dealer, his wife, daughter, maid servant, cook and a chauffeur of a friend of his who had come to the house to pick up his mistress who was supposed to be in that house.

A series of horrible homicides and terror have reigned in the old city where people are supposed to be decent, polite and law-abiding. . . . What is the powerful inner drive which makes the people so cruel and sadistic? It undoubtedly comes from many social ills that have been aggravated by the runaway inflation and hardships caused by the civil strife and political instability.

. . . Of all the needs of man, I think, the greatest is ease of mind. There may be clothing, food, shelter and even luxuries; but if there is no freedom from fear, there is no real living. . . .

M.K.L.

Peiping, China,
March 30, 1948.

Suggests Poll

To The Editor:

Being an earnest reader of your *Review* who considers this paper one of the leading publications in China and would like to see it improved in every way if possible, I venture to present my suggestions for your consideration.

I think it contains too many advertisements which sometimes occupy one-third of your space. Of course, you may have your own reasons for them.

I believe, however, there must be many readers with different opinions and suggestions. Why don't you make a public opinion poll so that you can be sure what columns are welcomed?

S. W. CHU.

Shanghai,
March 23, 1948.

Rate Problem

To The Editor:

The formation of a Foreign Exchange Equalization Board is aimed at eliminating the black market and meeting the supply and demand requirements of foreign exchange. Since its inception, the Foreign Exchange Equalization Board has constantly increased the open market foreign exchange rate in order to eradicate the black market rate and to develop export trade. For a time, it did succeed in minimizing the gap between the black market rate and the open market rate; as the result, at that time, the export trade was somewhat improved. But later on, because of the deterioration of the political situation and the wild rising of commodity prices, the black market rate has been continuously on the upward trend. Despite the Equalization Board's efforts to keep on raising the open market rate, the gulf between the black market rate and the open market has become as wide as 80 percent. This caused a great decrease in export.

In regard to the operation of the policy of the Foreign Exchange Equalization Board, some people are of the opinion that the constant raising of the open market rate would stimulate the hiking of commodity prices and demand keeping down the market rate as low as possible. Some argue that the advancing of the exchange rate is only indicative of the rising prices and it is logical for the exchange rate to follow closely on the heels of the rising of prices.

In my opinion, the unnatural lowering of the exchange rate would greatly affect Chinese export business. The majority of China's exports are agricultural products. Because of the high cost of production in this country, the low quotation prevailing in the foreign market and transportation inconvenience, China's export goods would sustain great loss in exporting, which would result in the stockpiling of export goods by merchants or deviating to the illegal channel of smuggling. The continuous depression of export trade would further affect the quantity of production. The unnatural limit on the exchange rate would also jeopardize the development of domestic industry for under the low exchange rate, foreign merchandise prices would be much lower than that of the domestic goods. I think, therefore, that the continuous justifiable fixing of the foreign exchange rate is necessary.

ALFRED WANG.

Nanking,
March 26, 1948.

A Weak President

To The Editor:

America has led the past two world wars into victory, therefore she deserves

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and is predestined to lead the present chaotic postwar world into peace via the United Nations Organization. But judging from President Harry S. Truman's speech to Congress on March 17, America is forfeiting her world leadership for self-aggrandizement. The tone and substance of this speech were actually more warmongering and domineering than statesmanlike. President Truman placed the whole responsibility for the present chaos on "one nation" saying domineeringly, "The door was never closed, nor will it ever be closed to the Soviet Union or any other nation which will genuinely cooperate in preserving the peace." Meantime, he recommended to Congress the Universal Military Training and Selective Service legislation. Says a Chinese adage, "It takes two hands to clap."....

I conclude that if one nation could do all the harm to world peace as President Truman enumerated in his recent speech to Congress, that one nation should be entitled to rule the world as it desires. Walter Lippmann said, "An election year, a weak president, a disintegrating administration and an as yet uncollected Republican Party make it inordinately difficult for this country to do the things which the situation demands." Professor Henry Steele Commager in an article in the *New York Times Magazine*, October 5, 1947, "Yardstick For A Presidential Candidate," said that a presidential candidate must have the talent "to say the right thing, to do the audacious thing, to dramatize the important thing."

I am afraid that President Truman has said the wrong thing and dramatized the wrong thing and thus, a more chaotic world is a foregone conclusion.

CHINESE JOHN THE BAPTIST.

Chengtu, Szechuen,
March 23, 1948.

Immediate Peace

To The Editor:

Your editorial "Confusion And Contradiction" in the February 28 issue of the *Review* gives me hope for the opportunity of extinguishing the "Red-terror" throughout China, but it also makes me worry about the American aid to China. When will American troops come here to fight shoulder to shoulder with Chinese soldiers to check the spread of Communism in China?

The Nationalists are no match for the Reds....The Chinese people suffer too much; they want an immediate peace. I hope the United States helps stop the Chinese Civil War and helps to organize a real coalition government in China....

G.S.S.

Chengtu, Szechuen,
March 27, 1948.

Propaganda Center

To The Editor:

United Press reports from Shanghai indicate that Hongkong is now being used as operational headquarters for Communist propaganda in South China. Those who follow the popular literature here do not have to wait for the *United Press* transmission from the North. Vernacular periodicals that command some respect of their readers invariably take Moscow's logic and Mao Tse-tung's leadership as infallible.

Postwar Hongkong has disillusioned and disappointed most conscientious youth and veterans. Big banks and utilities which amass huge profits are in the hands of a few, some of them were the Mikado's faithful collaborators, gravely suspected of having aided the enemy in undermining the Allied war effort.

One more serious factor is the deterioration of the capitalists' morality among the so-called European population who, before the war, had maintained a

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high standard of White Man's Burden. It is true most if not all of the Americans and Englishmen still stick to their code of honor in business. On the other hand, many of the Eurasians and so-called Third Nationals under the Japanese category have abused the Nordic prestige so much that probably only the Kuomintang's corruption, nepotism and inefficiency rival them in making the Chinese masses susceptible to the Bolshevik ideology.

A typical case is found in a certain Third National whose work for the Japanese made him worth HK$3,000,000 when the enemy surrendered.

As soon as the British landed, this collaborator befriended an American who helped him to avoid prosecution. The amnesty order eventually freed him from further worry of being named a traitor.

In a few months he grabbed over three lakhs of easy money. Feeling sure that he could enjoy the fruits of swindling, he sent his wife with the loot to South America.

Among the people he cheated was the former Commissioner of Finance of Fukien and another was a millionaire curio dealer from Shanghai. Both could afford to lose money, but neither could afford to stand the scandal involved.

Another victim of this ex-servant of the Mikado was a deputy chief of the Kuomintang guerrillas that rescued the Honorable D. M. MacDougall and over one hundred important Britons in the early part of 1942 from behind the Japanese lines.

The technique of this ex-friend of the Nipponese was so perfect that while the victim's friends knew acts of dishonesty were done, they realized that little if any hope could be entertained for redressing the grievances. Hongkong, being a European Colony and on the whole perfectly administered, would not permit such scandal to damage the White Man's prestige. The victim, being a Chinese and by now down to his last cent, could not afford the costly lawsuit and arguments in a language he could not understand.

In short, this Third National is now the winner on both sides in this war, because of his European skin or his European name, and because of the fact that he amassed huge fortunes by betraying the Allies to the enemy.

His actions give Moscow and its satellites good material and arguments against the continued existence of Anglo-American influence in the Far East.

You can appreciate why the Kremlin picked Hongkong as its propaganda center for South China and South Asia.

Y. S. Liu

Hongkong,
March 28, 1948.

No Freedom

To The Editor:

....No one cares a bit for what *Chung Yang Weekly* (中央週刊), *San Min Chu I Weekly* (三民主義週刊), *Shih Yu Cho Fortnightly* (時與潮) and other government official magazines say, but they are everywhere in Sian. Independent magazines such as *Shih Chieh Chih Shih*, *Kuan Cha* and *Shih Yu Wen*, on the contrary, are prohibited to be sold at bookstores. Three days ago I witnessed a Kuomintang gestapo member dressed in civilian clothes confiscating all copies of *Kuan Cha* from a bookseller.

I hate Chiang Kai-shek who is Yuan Shih-kai II (a Chinese traitor). In order to put down the people's revolution and to please his American papas, Harry Truman, George Marshall, etc., he and his gangsters have deprived us lao pai hsing of all freedoms....

L. C. C.

Sian, Shensi,
March 29, 1948.

Tighten His Belt

To The Editor:

Recently, to the horror of the masses, small denomination fapi notes of CNC$500 to 2,500 suddenly met an ill fate, being refused in the market, in Hoppo, Kwangtung. As the result, business was thrown into confusion; the local Provincial Bank was packed and shops thronged with customers. No matter how high the commodity prices were, cautious people, fearing that the current paper money might be useless very soon, were dumping out all their fapi notes in exchange for goods, thus resulting in a blind, rapid and ceaseless soaring of all commodity prices. I remember the same thing occurred last summer when CNC$50 to 400 bank notes were refused in circulation and finally disappeared. What will become of CNC$10,000 to 40,000 bank notes after a period of six months or so?

Needless to say, the frantic rise of commodity prices deals a mortal blow to the salaried class, especially teachers. As we know, the salaries of the Government and teaching personnel are readjusted by the Government every three months according to the cost of living index. But such a measure is still none too satisfactory; it cannot keep abreast with ever-increasing prices. Though benefited with an increased salary, those supported on it are constantly threatened by starvation.

To make matters worse, at present the provincial class salaries are being paid in Kwangtung at 20 percent discount and rice allowances are curtailed. Meanwhile, the face value of the fapi in question has depreciated 50 percent or less; in other words, prices if paid in small denomination notes, are doubled in the market here. If a teacher receives, say, CNC$3,000,000 per month in such fapi, he actually gets about CNC$1,200,000 in big denomination notes. Nominally, his monthly income is made to a great amount, but in reality, what he gets is like "trying to put out the flames on a cartload of fuel with a cupful of water." Under such circumstances, the more often salaries are readjusted in this way, the less he gets.

SHUM KIA-CHUNG.

Hoppo, Kwangtung,
March 25, 1948.

Not True

To The Editor:

In the "US Magazine Roundup" in the *Review* of March 6, the article, "Who Holds China's Future," said, "The answer may soon be provided far to the South, in Canton....Soong is now governor of Canton....has his own military staff with him, and strong backing from western-minded Chinese businessmen." Facts in Canton, however, indicate that this is not true.

Dr. T. V. Soong has no higher prestige here than in Nanking when he resigned his premiership. The Kwangtung political and economic situation is going from bad to worse: corruption and inefficiency in both provincial and local governments are the same as before and agrarian agitations everywhere are becoming intensified. People here are beginning to lose confidence in him.

Soong's military staff have only their own clique's interest in mind and have nothing to do with the civil Governor at all. General Mao Pei-nan, who had been in charge of Soong's general headquarters, is now in retirement.

H.K.K.C.

Canton, Kwangtung,
March 29, 1948.

"Via CGRA

"Two things, well considered, would prevent many quarrels: First, to have it well ascertained whether we are not disputing about terms rather than things and, second, to examine whether that on which we differ is worth contending about."

—CALEB C. COLTON

●

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Vol. 109 Shanghai, Saturday, April 10, 1948 No. 6

The Web Tightens

IN several previous issues we have discussed various aspects of the question of individual freedoms and rights. It seems that this is a subject which never remains dormant as new problems continually arise. It also—in our view—is a subject upon which the public should be kept informed. The latest development is the refusal by the State Department to issue a passport to an American congressman on the grounds that his proposed trip is against US foreign policy.

Leo Isacson, American Labor Party Representative from New York, who recently was elected with Henry Wallace support, applied for a passport in order to attend a meeting in Paris organized for raising aid for the Greek guerrillas. The State Department refused him a passport, a sensational step in that it is the first time an American congressman has been denied one.

There are many angles to this case which should be studied carefully. We are not concerned here with the merits, or lack of them, of Isacson's proposed trip. Neither are we concerned with Isacson's politics, nor with the purposes of the Paris meeting. However, we will say that personally we hold no brief for the Greek guerrillas. We only say this so that there will be no misunderstanding of what we are going to say later. Our sole concern is over the principle of the State Department's refusal to grant a passport to an American citizen, regardless of whether or not he is a congressman. The fact that he is a congressman has merely served to fix public attention on the incident.

* * *

IT is our understanding that there is very little in American law about the issuing or non-issuing of passports, that the whole system has just "grown up" with the State Department and that the practice followed is more or less one which the Department at any particular time feels is justified. We think that it is high time the passport business was settled by Congress in the form of legislation which will direct the State Department what to do and what not to do.

There is no law that we know of which says that an American citizen is required to have a passport to leave the United States. However, there might just as well be one because today it is virtually impossible to leave the country—and land anywhere else in the world—unless one possesses this document which is looked upon by foreign governments as proof of American citizenship, although it is no such thing.

In the past we have known of non-American foreigners in Shanghai who have gotten into considerable difficulties because they fell out with their local consular representatives who then declined to renew their passports. This amounted to withdrawal of recognition and in effect rendered the individual stateless. Such, we believe, was the case of Elly Widler, now serving a term in Ward Road Jail and who is usually referred to in the press as an "unrecognized Swiss." We are told that this is the general practice of European nations. Happily, however, this is not the general practice of the United States. One acquires US citizenship by blood or by soil or by naturalization and it is extremely difficult to deprive an American of his citizenship. It just can't be done, except in the case of naturalized citizens, and even then the individual has recourse to the US courts. Even in such cases the matter is governed by law, not by local consular officials, and in no case does the matter rest upon the possession, or non possession, of a paper folder called a passport.

Because of this difference in attitude it has been the *general opinion among Americans* that while most Europeans obtain passports from their respective governments as a *privilege*, an American citizen, obtaining his passport to travel abroad, is merely exercising one of his *rights* as a citizen. However, as we said before, there is no law upon this subject and, therefore, there is definite need of one, especially since the State Department seems inclined in recent years to interpret the issuing of passports in a somewhat different manner than in the past. There is evidence that the State Department is slowly taking the same view as that held by most European regimes. There is absolutely no legal basis for such an interpretation. While there also is no legal basis for the opposite view, we have many years of tradition in direct opposition to present practice.

After the outbreak of the war in Europe, certain restrictions were imposed on the issuance of passports. These mainly were done by State Department rulings or in some cases by orders from the White House. They were designed to protect American lives by Limiting, or even preventing, travel in war areas. Also the government felt it desirable to prevent Americans from serving in the armed forces of belligerent states. This regulation has been changed or interpreted differently from time to time. In the case of wars, disasters, etc. there is obviously some justification in plac-

ing restrictions upon the use of passports. However, beyond this we will not go.

We have nothing but sympathy for our overworked consular officials who have to deal with irrational characters roaming abroad. We remember a harassed consul who once told us of his difficulties with an obviously unbalanced missionary woman whose outlandish behavior kept her in so much trouble with Chinese officialdom that he spent about half of his time attending to her and her problems. We also sympathize with the Embassy officials who are today faced by Chinese officials and scientists enraged by the antics of Milton Reynolds.

Perhaps there should be some method of denying passports to people who have once raised similar rumpuses abroad. However, we fail to see just how such control is to be effected unless there are laws which govern the subject. It must be done by law and not according to the views of any particular group of bureaucrats. Let us take the cases of Reynolds and Isacson as an example. We are willing to bet that before long millionaire Reynolds will dream up another adventure stunt in some other part of the world and will apply for and obtain a new passport. However, Isacson, who to our knowledge has created no scandal abroad in the past, has been denied a passport because his trip is considered detrimental to US foreign policy. There is quite a distinction between these two men, but, in our view, one's trip to Paris certainly cannot be more harmful to American foreign policy and prestige than Reynolds' recent trip to China has been.

One small indication of how ridiculous the State Department can become on the question of passports was the situation immediately after the war when reports reached Washington of the extreme housing shortage in Shanghai. One American businessman after another, anxious to return to China, was asked by the passport division if he had a house in Shanghai. If he didn't, he didn't get his passport. It became such a commonplace happening that one local American lawyer wrote to a friend, instructing him to tell the passport division that the lawyer had a big house and that the businessmen could live with him. This worked and probably a dozen or more American businessmen passed the "housing qualification" by solemnly declaring that they planned to live with this lawyer in his "big" house.

* * *

CLEARLY a legal ruling is needed from Congress. We had enough law making by the executive and administrative departments of the government during the days of the late Franklin Roosevelt. We must not be misled by those who justify the denial of a passport to Isacson on the grounds that we are fighting the Communists and naturally don't want to let "another Red" get abroad to help them and to embarrass us. That is not the point at all. The point is that the State Department is interpreting in a new way one of its functions which vitally affects a great many Americans abroad. If American public and Congressional sentiments have changed on this point, we should be made aware of it by getting an expression in the form of legislation.

Agrarian Reform

THE question of agrarian reform has received much publicity lately. According to press reports, Government leaders and army brass hats at the Central China Pacification Conference unanimously decided to make a determined although somewhat belated bid to win popular support for the anti-Communist military operations by distributing land to the peasants and army men.

It was significantly stressed that the new land program "is designed to counteract the Communist method of land distribution as announced in October 1947." The program, it was explained, is to be applied only to the so-called pacification areas, that is, those districts which have been recaptured from the Communists.

General Fu Tso-yi, Commander-in-Chief of Government Bandit-Suppression Forces in North China, is reported in the press to be attaching the greatest importance to agrarian reform. In the opinion of this politically-minded general, the final outcome of the present struggle between the Government and the Communists will rely in a large measure on how far the land problem is to be solved and in what way. He strongly advocated building up the "middle classes" as a bulwark against the extremists at both ends.

As is well known, China's land problem is a political as well as an economic and social one. The history of the rapid expansion of Communism in this country is mainly an eventful story of the ceaseless and sometimes violent struggles of the land-hungry and down trodden peasantry. A brief review of this history is both interesting and instructive.

Immediately after the Kuomintang-Communist split in 1927, the Chinese Communists went into hiding in the mountainous rural districts in Kiangsi and Hunan and started their agrarian revolution through confiscating the land of the landlords and redistributing it to the landless peasants. Their efforts seemed to have been crowned with some success and in a short time they had recovered from the first shocks of the Kuomintang's bloody purge. More than that, they succeeded in organizing a "Red Army" of hundreds of thousands of peasants, and finally set up their Soviet regime. Thanks to the popular support on the part of the peasantry, the Chinese Communists managed to withstand the "bandit-suppression campaigns" of the Government for several years until their trek to the Northwest.

The Nationalists and the Communists buried their hatchets after the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War and fought shoulder to shoulder to resist Japanese aggression. The Communists gave up their ruthless agrarian revolution and adopted a more moderate program of reducing land rentals. According to Communist explanations, this "tactical retreat" on the land problem

The US Home Front

From Now Until Nov. 2

Lynchburg News

How To Train A Seal

New York Herald Tribune

Pleasant Evesdropping

New York Times

was intended to "strengthen the nation-wide anti-Japanese united front."

The breakdown of the protracted and fruitless peace talks between Nanking and Yenan and the subsequent recurrence of internal fighting all over the country produced a profound change in China's internal situation. As a result, the Communists thought it advisable and necessary to modify their land policy to meet the changed situation. In October 1947 they made public their "Outline of the Land Law," which provides among other things for abolition of land ownership by landlords and public institutions and for equitable redistribution of land according to population. It was stressed that the land program is one of "agrarian reform" and is different from the "agrarian revolution" of the prewar years.

It is extremely difficult for outsiders to find out how the much-advertised "agrarian reform" is being carried out in Communist-held areas and what results, if any, have been produced. The Communists claim that things are going on beautifully and the results so far have been satisfactory. Neutral observers are inclined to think that the steady stream of fresh troops to the front seems to indicate that the Reds don't have to worry about the preservation of peace and order in their rear.

As the Chinese Communists are deeply entrenched in the countryside, it is only natural that they should have depended largely upon the peasantry and the backward rural economy for prosecuting the war. Their clever handling of the land problem has enabled them to enlist the sympathy and backing of the land tillers.

China is predominantly an agricultural country and more than 80 percent of its population is reported to be engaged on the farm. Therefore, the land problem is of tremendous importance in shaping China's internal politics. Chinese history is full of highly instructive examples showing peasant uprisings which ended with a change in dynasties. It was precisely for this reason that Dr. Sun Yat-sen in his first years of revolutionary activities advocated "equitable distribution of land ownership." After the Kuomintang's reorganization in 1924 Dr. Sun went a step further, setting forth his policy that "the man who operates the land should own it."

Whatever may be said of the Chinese Communists and their tactics, it is generally agreed that they enjoy certain popular support in the rural districts. And it is this popular support that has enabled them to fight against heavy odds.

On the other hand, it is generally felt that the Government does not have much popular support among the peasants. It is this lack of popular support that has added to the Government's difficulties. The Chinese Communists have been accused of stealing the Kuomintang's thunder, but the trouble is that the Kuomintang did not manage to run the show at all. During the past 20 years, Dr. Sun's land policy has been shelved and Nanking has done little to win over the peasantry. Even the proposed 25-percent reduction in land rentals did not make much headway.

In the final analysis, the question of winning popular support among the peasants boils down to a satisfactory solution of the land problem. This is the reason why the Chinese Communists have made a big issue of it. It is also the reason why during the recent discussion of the China Aid Bill many Congressmen demanded inclusion of a rural reconstruction program.

Now Nanking is fully awakened to the grave dangers involved and is said to be resolved to carry out a new land program as a counterpoise to the Communist agrarian reform. It will be interesting to see how the program will work out in actual practice.

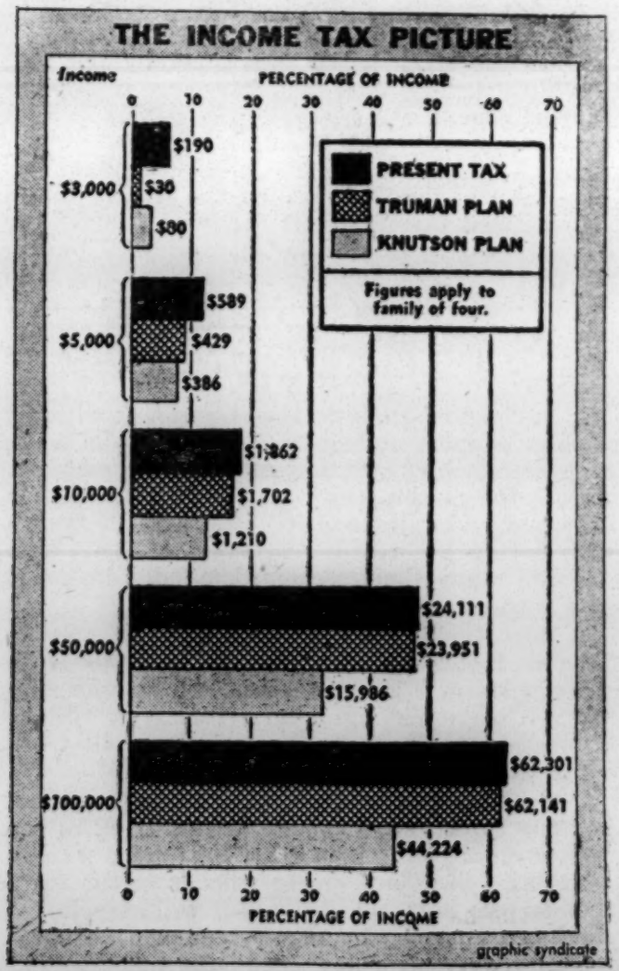
Needless to say, there are obstacles ahead. For one thing, since much of the land in the various districts is owned by landlords, who in most cases are Government officials at the same time or who have political pull it will surprise no one if these people should sabotage or even openly resist Nanking's new land program.

Besides, taxation has long been a serious problem in the rural districts. This is particularly true of the land tax in kind, which was first introduced in the war years. The China-United States Agricultural Mission warned in its report:

"The tax rates on agricultural property put a heavy burden on agriculture; in many instances present rates are regarded as excessive, especially where heavy hsien taxes have been added to the national land tax....The taxation of farm land, which is a major source of national revenue in China, has an important effect upon agriculture. Much land has escaped taxation. This places an undue burden on some owners, whereas others gain an unfair advantage. The failure to distribute the tax burden equitably, in proportion to the value of the property, may force land out of cultivation, because the returns are not sufficient to cover the costs of production and excessive taxes at the same time...."

It is quite obvious that unless there is a corresponding modification in the government's taxation policy in the rural districts, mere distribution of land to peasants and army men cannot hope to help them much. As the result of conscription and the collection of land tax in kind, there has been a tendency among the peasants to give up their land and flee to the cities. According to press reports, some small landlords are complaining that possession of land nowadays is more of a liability than an asset.

In view of the highly unsatisfactory results of the "special relief levy," it is interesting to see how Nanking is going to put teeth into the new land program.



A Poor Tax Bill

LAST week Congress passed the Knutson Income Tax Bill over the president's veto and thus enacted one of the poorest and most shortsighted tax bills passed in recent years.

While we do not have all the details of the new tax, its general provisions relating to personal income tax have been reported in the press for several weeks. If nothing else, passage of this bill by the Republican-dominated Congress clearly indicates where the sympathies of Representative Harold Knutson, Republican from Minnesota, the author of the bill, and his Republican colleagues lie. They do not lie with the common man. Knutson and his supporters—among whom there are also many conservative Democrats—are openly supporting the upper income brackets of society.

The tax picture can be determined roughly by a glance at the accompanying chart from the *New York Times* which shows three different tax plans. First, is the old tax, second is the tax plan proposed by President Truman, while third is Knutson's plan, which, presumably, was passed without many modifications.

In the lowest group, the old tax required the payment of US$190 as income tax on an annual income of US$3,000. Truman, desiring to give the little fellow a break, would have cut this tax to only US$30 per year. Knutson, however, was inclined to reduce the figure to only US$80. In the next category, US$5,000 salary earners, Knutson felt inclined to give the payer a better "break," cutting his tax about US$50 less than Truman proposed. The same trend continued until the earners of US$100,000 per year were reached. Knutson's heart fairly bled for the man who made US$100,000. Truman wanted this guy to part with US$62,141, or more than 60 percent of his income. Republican Knutson, however, wanted to extend a helping hand, cutting his tax to only slightly more than 40 percent of his income.

* * *

PERHAPS this is a small matter to become exercised over, but it seems to us that it is a valid example of how far removed the Republican Party is becoming from the "little man." The Republicans have been yelling for tax relief ever since the end of the war, but when they got a chance to do something about it, they appeared to be strangely concerned about the welfare of those people who are best able to pay taxes and actually gave only token relief to those who find taxes a real burden.

Austerity Needed

LATEST reports from Nanking seem to indicate that all at the National Assembly is not smooth sailing. More than a week has rolled by and the Assembly is still holding "preparatory meetings." The only entry on the

credit side after a whole week's deliberations was the election of the presidium. However, even this score was not made without mishap. The results of the first election had to be declared null and void because of "irregularities." It was charged that some delegates had voted twice.

The question of "popularly-elected" delegates has not yet been settled at the time of writing and eight of them are still on a hunger strike, Chinese style. The strikers are reported to be eating oranges and bananas and drinking tea. One striker who is said to be weaker than the rest is drinking milk and receiving glucose injections. One of the striking delegates made the sensational charge that the man of the Young China Party to whom he was asked to surrender his seat in the National Assembly was a notorious quisling, a high-ranking officer under the puppet government of Manchukuo.

According to Chinese press reports, the atmosphere was far from cordial and enthusiastic. The hissing, booing and jeering were disappointing. It was said that during the first election of the presidium, the meeting became a near riot, with delegates shouting loudly and shaking their clenched fists.

All this is really ridiculous and disappointing, the more so, if we take into consideration the fact that the expenses of the National Assembly are reported to be about CNC$7,000,000,000 a day. It is therefore not without reason that even some pro-Government papers have become impatient.

The convocation of the National Assembly is said to be an "epoch-making event in the history of China." In his opening address, President Chiang Kai-shek stressed that "this is a memorable occasion, marking as it does not only the beginning of constitutional democracy in China, but also the attainment of something which has been the goal of 50 years of our revolutionary activities." After explaining that "this session of the National Assembly is charged with the responsibility of enforcing the constitution," President Chiang concluded with the hope that "at this juncture, when our serious national crisis coincides with the beginning of constitutionalism," the National Assembly "will earnestly exercise such powers as are bestowed upon it by the constitution, thereby launching China's constitutional government to a good start."

But in view of the poor record of the past week and the shilly-shallying way of doing things, we wonder whether the National Assembly will ever be able to accomplish much. It seems to us the National Assembly needs streamlining in order to get things done. If "the functions of the National Assembly are confined to electing a president and a vice president and to forming a new National Government," as Generalissimo Chiang suggested, it would be much better to go straight ahead with this election. There is no sense in wasting the time and money of the Chinese taxpayer in beating about the bush. Many delegates criticized the Government for red tape and inefficiency. It is time they did something to show what efficiency really means.

Meanwhile we take the liberty to remind both the Government and the delegates to the National Assembly that the austerity regulations are still in force. If there is any need for austerity, the present occasion is decidedly one.

25 Years Ago In The *Weekly Review Of The Far East*

Returning The Indemnity

April 7, 1923

Scarcely a week passes now without some country announcing its intention of returning its share of the Chinese Boxer Indemnity to China, the latest nations being Japan and Belgium. Just before adjournment a few days ago the Japanese Diet passed a bill providing for the use of the Japanese share of the indemnity for "cultural" purposes in China....It begins to appear that all future aggressions upon China will be in the form of educational drives....Those who think that the Chinese mind can be turned in any special direction through educational propaganda should be able to gain several lessons from the Japanese experience. Hundreds of Chinese have been educated in Japanese schools...., but it has had little effect upon the attitude of young China toward Japan....If evidence is needed, the present Chinese parliament which passed a bill abrogating the Twenty-one Demands is Japanese educated.

* * *

End Of Open Door Policy

When the question of wireless construction was brought up at the Washington Conference, great pressure was brought to bear to form a combination of American, British, Japanese and French interests to take over the Japanese station (at Peking) and internationalize all radio communication in China. The Chinese government protested against this....since this would carry with it the loss of Chinese sovereign rights over her internal and external communication. The United States government also disapproved of this plan....This whole question was supposed to have been settled when the various nations.....signed in apparent good faith the various treaties and resolutions at the Washington Conference. Recent events in Peking seem to indicate that a sinister move is now being made to undermine and neutralize all of the constructive accomplishments of the Washington meeting. If this is true, it is well that the public should know the facts and especially the Americans before they proceed any further with the dismantling of battleships or fortifications in the Pacific.

10 Years Ago In *The China Weekly Review*

War Profiteering

April 9, 1938

Shanghai, in the past two weeks, began to receive a rather bitter dose of war profiteering. Such was to be expected, for where goes war, profiteering is sure to follow. The amazing point is that Shanghai had so long remained immune from this type of racketeering....In some cases, it must be admitted, legitimate reasons are in evidence for the higher costs of foods and other necessary commodities. In most instances, it appears to be pure and simple gouging. The favorite alibi for boosting prices was the decreased value of the Chinese dollar against foreign currency.

* * *

Chiang Made Tsung Tsai

General Chiang Kai-shek became war-time dictator of China, highest position of responsibility ever accorded any citizen since the birth of the Republic in 1911—with the single exception of the late Dr. Sun Yat-sen—as a result of the action of the Kuomintang Congress held at Hankow, March 29 to April 2. It was the most important action of the Congress which was attended by more than 500 delegates, including some of the outstanding Red leaders.

China's "Special Criminal Courts"

By C. Y. W. Meng

WALTER Lippmann, a renowned political analyst, in his recent article entitled "The Rivalry of Nations" published in the February issue of *The Atlantic Monthly*, has probably explained more explicitly to us some phases of the present American foreign policy. Let us quote some parts from it.

". . . We must ask ourselves whether there is here some common factor of error which confuses all of us on the issues of war and peace. I think there is. The beginning of wisdom on the Russian question is, I believe, to recognize the historic fact that the division between eastern and western Europe, the rivalry between Russia and the nations of the west, did not begin with Marx, Lenin and Stalin, nor would it end if the Soviet regime were overthrown or defeated . . . That being the case, we must give up the notion that the choice is between the one world in which the Russians are our partners, and two worlds in which we must annihilate the Russians, or they must annihilate us . . . I believe that the best policy is to recognize that the rivalry will remain, and not to expect to disappear and not to think it could be abolished by the United Nations, and not to think it could be abolished by a victorious war...."

Ho Gives View

Dr. Ho Ying-chi, a noted Chinese writer, in an article published in *Ta Kung Pao* March 28, wrote that when the United States adopted a "Get Tough" policy with Russia, the latter returned by a "Get Tougher" policy with America. This may confirm, as pointed out in an article entitled "The Containment of Soviet Power" published in the January issue of *Harper's Magazine*, that "The proximate cause of the present state of international relations, as I said at the outset, is the profound and, in some respects, the abrupt change in the foreign policy of the American Government."

These quotations, we believe, are sufficient to show that under the present circumstances, a policy based on hatred—either a foreign policy or a domestic policy—will not take us anywhere. It only aggravates the whole situation from bad to worse, leading us to the outbreak of the World III, or to the outbreak of a civil war or to the prolongation and intensification of a civil war, if it is already in progress in a country.

Uncle Sam has certainly adopted a policy of hatred toward communism and seems quite determined to achieve "the containment of Soviet power" at whatever cost—even if it means allying himself with the old enemy regimes, tearing down the UNO December decision to create a Jewish State, announcing the return of the Free City of Trieste to Italian control and discussing the restoration of the prewar colonies to Italy.

With the Uncle going this way, the Nephew proudly follows. The case in point, the recent establishment of the Special Criminal Courts in China to try the communists is strongly opposed by Chinese legislators, jurists and the people.

Study December Measures

These Special Criminal Courts are organized under Article 8 of the so-called "Emergency Measures for Dealing with the Offenses Endangering the Security of the State During the Period of the Communist Suppression Campaign," promulgated by the National Government on December 22, 1947, only three days before the promulgation of the Constitution. These measures, which are of such importance to the people are nevertheless very brief, consisting of only 12 articles. Therefore, it is necessary for us to study these "Emergency Measures" before going further to discuss these special courts.

In an article entitled, "An Unconstitutional Law Enforced On the Eve of the Promulgation of Our Constitution," published in the January 24, 1948 issue of *The Observer* (in Chinese), Professor Sui Mo of Peiping University, pointed out that historically speaking, there are three ways for the infringement of the rights of the people by a government: first, requisition of land and collection in kind; second, excessive levying of taxes; and third, the formulation of special criminal laws. "Of these three ways, a dictatorial government is always most happy to resort to the third," said Professor Sui. He pointed out that at present the enforcement of these measures is evidence of the tragic mockery of the promulgation of the constitution at this time. He then went on to discuss these emergency measures.

Under these measures, ordinary cases of disturbances of the public peace and hindrances to the enforcement of financial measures have all become special criminal cases. The punishment has been raised to the highest degree. These emergency measures can easily become *ex post facto* laws, contrary to the basic principles of criminal code.

The reason the Constitution particularly provides that when a person commits a crime, he must be tried by the regular law court is that this court has more complete procedure, the independence of decision and a chance for appeal. These enactments are for the protection of the rights and freedom of the people. But now, he said, these cases are to be tried by special courts. To Professor Sui, "this is a way to avoid the trial according to the due process of law . . . This is a gross violation of the basic spirit for the protection of the rights and freedom of the people as stipulated in the Constitution."

Not only that, continued the professor, with the establishment of these Special Criminal Courts, all restrictions, all protection to our freedom and our rights to be tried by the regular law courts, as stipulated in the Constitution, "are being usurped almost in entirety by the Government." Owing to the existence of these Special Criminal Courts, the people can no longer demand trial by the regular law court "according to the due process of law." In the opinion of Professor Sui, the establishment of these Special Courts, "is tantamount to the militarization of law courts, but, at the same time, seeks to avoid the name of 'Trial by Military Tribunal.'"

The professor characterized these emergency measures as "Bills of Attainder" which are prohibited in the American Constitution.

He expressed his surprise that the Legislative Yuan, while expressing its opposition to the increase of the postal and telegram tariff enforced arbitrarily by the Executive Yuan, did not take up the matter "which is evidently an infringement of the civil rights of the people," but adopted a law "which is in violation of the Constitution." He concluded by suggesting the repeal or revision of all laws and regulations, including these emergency measures, which come into conflict with the letter and spirit of the Constitution.

Contradiction

An article entitled "'General Mobilization, Communist-Suppression Campaign and Enforcement of Constitution," published in the August 30, 1947 issue of *The Observer*, Professor Lou Pang-yi of Peiping University, pointed out that there is a great contradiction between the communist suppression campaign and the enforcement of the Constitution which can not come together. To him, it is not the time for the enforcement of a constitution in the period of "military first." After discussing the problem, the professor pointed out that through the promulgation of the General Mobilization Order, "the Government has acquired the legal and theoretical basis to facilitate its actions and to do what it wishes."

According to the first draft of the Organic Law of Special Criminal Court and Regulations Governing the Trial by Special Criminal Courts, these Special Courts had only one grade. With the exception of the death penalty and life imprisonment which could be reviewed by the Ministry of Justice, all decisions were final. But, fortunately, this Law was revised during a heated debate in the Legislative Yuan on March 25.

According to Article 2 of the Revised Organic Law of Special Crim-

inal Courts, these special courts are now being divided into two grades: the Central Special Criminal Court and the High Special Criminal Courts.

Article 3 provides that the High Special Criminal Courts have jurisdiction to try all cases under these Emergency Measures in Dealing with Offenses Endangering the Security of the State During the Period of the Communist Suppression Campaign. Their location and jurisdiction shall be decided by the Ministry of Justice. Article 4 provides that the Central Special Criminal Court, to be located in the National Capital, shall be under the jurisdiction of the Judicial Yuan, which is to review the decisions handed down by the High Special Criminal Courts.

Article 5 of the Revised Regulations Governing the Trial by Special Criminal Courts provides that all decisions handed down by these Special Courts in accordance with the present Regulations shall be final, no appeal nor protest being permitted, except in cases of imprisonment of over five years which may be reviewed by the Central Special Criminal Court.

Special Court

The Special Criminal Court in Shanghai has Wong Chin-nan as the President, and Hsu Chi-yen the Chief Prosecutor. The Court has eight judges and four prosecutors and a total of 100 employees. The Court is housed inside the building which originally was used as the criminal section of the Shanghai High Court.

Besides these Special Criminal Courts, the Ministry of Justice is also reported to have received instructions to establish a "Special Criminal Department." According to a report in *Ta Kung Pao* of March 28, Ho Ching-han, an inspector of the Military Affairs Department of the National Government, will be the director of this new department. But what is most strange to relate here is that the office of this Department, though in name is under the Ministry of Justice, will be located in the building of the Ministry of National Defense! This may verify what Professor Sui Mo has said that although such name as 'trial by military tribunal" might be avoided, it is, in fact, a militarization of law courts.

The above-mentioned Organic Law and Regulations were adopted by the Legislative Yuan on March 25. But according to the report in *The China Press* of March 12, the Special Criminal Court in Shanghai "began to function here yesterday," March 11. This at once aroused a bitter protest from the Shanghai Bar Association.

In a petition addressed to the Judicial Yuan, the Legislative Yuan, the Executive Yuan, the Ministry of Justice and the People's Political Council in Nanking, the Association pointed out that "It would be a bad history of China and any other country to have a law court inaugurated, precedent unfounded in the judicial while its draft organic law has not been adopted . . . Furthermore, this is the first year of the enforcement of the Constitution. The creation of such a strange trial system is to cause the integrity of judiciary which is already in shape to be divided again."

Heated Debate

When the aforesaid Organic Law and Regulations Governing Special Criminal Courts were brought up for discussion on March 25, the Legislative Yuan had one of the most heated debates in history. One Legislator, Sun Chiu-lo, said, 'Fundamentally, I oppose it." He pointed out the following facts: "Before V.J Day, the Legislative Yuan had exerted much effort to lead all special legislation into the regular legal channel. But now we are going backward. Cases regarding the many Chinese traitors were no less serious, but they were all being handled by the regular courts. Why should there be Special Criminal Courts? If these regular courts are too slow in trying cases, the only way is to deal with the situation is to increase their efficiency."

Another legislator, Liu Pu-tung, asked why the Shanghai bank employees who went on a "sit-down strike" to demand the increase of salaries should be tried by the Special Criminal Court. He pointed out that the establishment of a special court "was only a measure for Mussolini." To him, the judicial system of a democracy should be systematic.

Another Legislator, Tan Ti-wu, pointed out three main reasons for his opposition, which may be enumerated as follows: "First, violation of the provisions for the protection of the freedom of the people as stipulated in the Constitution; secondly, indiciary powers must not be divided again; and thirdly, we are a democracy, and we should not have any fascist system.

Legislator Chen Yu-hsien pointed out that "laws provided in the Constitution cannot be changed," adding that "to resort to formulating special laws is not a characteristic of a democratic nation."

Sun Fo Speaks

Amidst strong opposition from many legislators, Dr. Sun Fo, President of the Legislative Yuan, broke in by stating plainly that "Special Criminal Courts are to try communists," adding that "now we should not utter any more words sympathetic to the communists, and those who are sympathetic with the communists should leave here immediately."

However, despite such strong words from the President, Legislator Liu Pu-tung retorted that the "opposition against the establishment of the Special Criminal Courts does not mean sympathy with the communists . . We only mean that such a step does not give any convenience to the Government . . . On the contrary, it only increases trouble for the Government and it tends to increase the ill-feeling of the people toward the Government."

At any rate, the Organic Law and Regulations were both adopted. China will soon have one Central Special Criminal Court parallel with the Supreme Court, and may have several High Special Criminal Courts side by side with the High Courts in the various places in the country. But the question is: Will the establishment of these "Special Criminal Courts" curb the spread of communism in China?

To students of modern criminology, it is more important to take some preventive measures to prevent the occurrence of crimes than to send the criminals to jails and to put them to death. The same thing is true in dealing with communism. In the case of communism, these preventive measures lie in taking more constructive actions based on sanity, rationalism and realism. And these constructive actions may be summarized as follows:

Hunger and discontent, political inequality, social injustice, economic insecurity and lack of freedom for the people only invites communism. A progressive regime with a true representative government based on the will and support of the people, with an administration—central as well as local—staffed with more middle-of-the-roaders and more men who believe in their century and their nation, and with a socialist program for reform will repel communism.

Summary

To summarize, we believe a policy based on hatred will not lead us to any solution. If there is any "Truman-Attlee-Stalin Meet" in Berlin, as recently reported in the press, our sanity demands that no one should feel happy to deny it. Not only that, all should take the chance and exploit these possibilities. Similarly, if the People's Political Council, generally known as a "People's Organ" in China, has already proposed "a convocation of a national conference to solve the political problem," as so succinctly stated in its last manifesto, our sanity demands that no one should rule out these possibilities.

To quote again what was said by Legislator Liu Pu-tung, in opposing any special laws and special courts, it does not mean that we are in any way "sympathetic with the communists." No. Not a bit. We have no objection to the trial and punishment of a communist or any law breaker by a regular law court. But to formulate Special Criminal laws and courts is not only unnecessary but more condemnable in the eyes of modern jurists.

Secondly, we know nothing about politics, we have no axe to grind, and we simply stand for upholding the sanctity of law and justice. It seems to us that nothing will do greater harm to a government than to deviate from these basic democratic principles.

Like Mr. Walter Lippmann, we, too, believe the trouble with China lies in the error of our thinking which must be quickly corrected. National sanity, rationalism and realism must supersede the stupid pertinacity of blindly following other's examples if we are going to find the way out of the present period of darkness and despair.

Taiwan, China's El Dorado?

Lin Wo-chiang

EVER since the restoration of Taiwan to China, there has been much speculation, both public and private, as to the economic potentialities of this island province. Taiwan has been called by some the El Dorado of this part of the world. However, careful examination of the island and its present condition will show that all that glitters in Taiwan is not gold—although, to be sure, gold is actually found there.

There are many factors which must be taken into consideration in any estimate of the extent of Taiwan's potentialities as a producer of industrial and raw materials. Despite 51 years of Japanese rule and exploitation, the resources of the island have not been depleted to the point of exhaustion, nor has its full industrial potential yet been realized. Japan, it is true, squeezed Taiwan, but she did not squeeze it dry: there is still plenty left capable of further, profitable development.

Japan's Policy

It had been Japan's policy during the occupation period to make Taiwan her granary and warehouse. The island was made to supply Japan with sufficient quantities of foodstuffs and raw materials to satisfy her consumptive needs, as well as to earn foreign exchange for her. Like other colonial powers, Japan had been reluctant to introduce industrial enterprises into the land which supplied her own industrial machine. What she did was to confine Taiwan largely to the production of partially-manufactured goods, which were then sent to Japan for finishing and marketed from there as Japanese goods.

No serious attempt to industrialize Taiwan was made by Japan until the war years when a supply base nearer to China was necessary and when sea transportation between Japan and the Asiatic Continent was menaced by Allied attacks. She feverishly increased the output of the Taiwan power plants, cement and coal mines and increased production of foodstuff. At this time, iron works were established and enlarged to turn out ammunition and war weapons (including aircraft). Thus Japan unwittingly helped to lay a foundation which in any event will be beneficial to the economic development of Taiwan. The island now has at its disposal adequate and cheap electric power for industrial plants, trained native technicians and skilled labor, good communications and irrigation systems. These are favorable and essential factors which will go a long, long way towards making up for the natural limitations of the island.

Since these available factors were planned and expected by man, further and more judicious application of human efforts will be necessary if Taiwan is to be expected to increase, or even maintain, the former level of her productivity. These objectives cannot be attained in a haphazard manner. Sound economic policy and good administration are requisites for their realization. The Japanese had a comparatively simple and easy job. But what Japan cared most about in those days was to extract as much wealth from the island as she could, which she did without consideration for the welfare of the people. Now that Taiwan has again become part of China, the people there naturally expect to have an equitable share in the prosperity of the island.

Like the farmers in Pearl Buck's "Good Earth," the people of Taiwan have an innate love for the soil that nourishes them. Even before the Japanese occupation, the island produced more than its inhabitants alone could consume. Under Japanese encouragement, the annual yield of rice was steadily increased to more than double that of the pre-occupation period, which made possible the exportation to Japan of about half of the island's harvest. According to the "Taiwan Year Book," 1947, the total area of Taiwan is 370,870 chia (a chia or ko is equivalent to 2.4 acres) of which 88,000 chia, or 24 percent, is cultivated land on which rice, sugar cane, fruits, etc., are grown.

Arable Land

The topographical nature of the island makes the question of availability of arable land a matter of great concern since the population has increased by about 90 percent in 50 years. (In 1898 the total population was 2,613,400; by 1938 it was 5,747,000.) Roughly two-thirds of the land is occupied by mountains, hills and forest. The forest, however, is an economic asset from which lumber, camphor, etc., are derived.

An investigation committee set up by the Japanese Government in 1929 found that only about 50,000 chia of land could be brought under future cultivation. This means that the growing of staple food on the island is restricted and that any increase in this direction would depend on intensive farming and the attention paid to irrigation. In 1922 the Japanese introduced a new variety of rice—the horai rice—which was not only more palatable than the native rice, but also had a higher yield. This, together with the practice of deep ploughing, of double cropping and more liberal application of fertilizers, has increased the yield of rice by three and one half times. Today, the price of rice in Taiwan is about six times that of the prewar price, testifying that there will be no shortage of food if the old level of production is maintained.

However, much of the cultivated land was laid waste during the war and the island is in need of fertilizers. Part of this need has been met by purchases from abroad by the Provincial Agriculture Department and by allocations from CNRRA. At the same time, the Government has been attending to the repair of the irrigation works, the allotment of arable land to farmers and the readjustment on a more equitable basis of the landlord-tenant relationship. These agrarian reforms, beneficial as they are to the farmers, are regarded, however, by the estate owners as burdensome. On top of their now diminished returns, the owners are required to pay higher taxes and also to contribute a certain percent of what they have collected to the Government.

According to the estimate of some landlords, they get only about 20 percent out of the annual yield of their own property after all other items have been taken out. A new agrarian policy is now being put to test in Taiwan; its outcome will be watched with interest. This is because in Taiwan, agriculture is closely linked with industry, particularly with the food industry, such as the manufacturing of sugar from sugar cane grown by the farmers. The importance of the sugar industry to Taiwan will be appreciated from the fact that the island used to occupy fourth place among producers of cane sugar, and that in the peak year of 1939, 23,645,509 piculs of sugar were produced.

Sugar Industry

The Taiwan sugar industry operates under handicaps not commonly experienced in other sugar producing countries, one of which is the high cost of production due to the steady increase in land values. With most of the outlets for investment either closed or monopolized by the Japanese, the island people could only invest in land. Before the Pacific War, one chia of cultivated land cost 2,000 yens. It is no wonder then that Taiwan sugar had no chance to compete with that produced in the Philippines. The cost of production for Taiwan at that time was from eight to 10 pesos per picul, whereas for the Philippines it was from four to seven pesos. Only recently the United States ordered one million tons of sugar from Cuba, mainly for consumption in the areas under American military occupation. The

order was placed with Cuba instead of Taiwan because the price of Taiwan sugar is higher.

It appeared the more preposterous when one learned that out of this Cuban purchase, about 140,000 tons were to be allocated to Japan, a country so much nearer to Taiwan than far-off Cuba. However, a small quantity of sugar has been shipped to Japan from Taiwan since the reopening of Japan for foreign trade. In prewar years Taiwan used to export about 1,000,000 tons of sugar to Japan annually.

The sugar situation difficulty in Taiwan which confronts the Government in its rehabilitation work is enhanced by the extensive damage sustained by the sugar factories during the Pacific War. Of the 42 sugar factories on the island, only eight escaped Allied bombings. The Pintung Sugar Factory, one of the largest, received more than one hundred bombs and was a complete wreck when taken over by the Government. Through tireless efforts its manager, who for a whole year supervised the repair and refitting of buildings and machinery, the factory was re-opened at the beginning of this year and is now humming with life.

In Taiwan, the sugar industry, like cement, fertilizers, coal, paper factories, etc. is state-owned, being under the joint operation of the National Resources Commission and the Provincial Government. In the past, Japan was able to save her foreign exchange by importing sugar from Taiwan; in the future it may also be helpful to China in a similar way, because China has always been an importer of sugar from foreign countries—the Philippines, Java, Cuba, etc. But to be able to do so, the level of producing capacity must be raised above its previous record (that of 1939, for instance), and the cost of production must be lowered to compete with other sugar-producing countries without having to resort to protective tariffs on foreign imported sugar. The reduction of production costs can probably be best achieved by tackling seriously the agrarian problem mentioned above. The extension of cultivable land may be one way of approach, instead of depending solely on the present cultivated land. Any appreciable increase in the acreage of cultivable land will naturally depreciate the land values of the island.

After taking over the different industries from Japan, the Chinese Government had to grapple with problems no less difficult than those which we have pointed out as existing in the sugar industry. Many of these factories had been damaged and they had either to be repaired or rebuilt; factory machinery and equipment had been wrecked or dismantled to be kept in places safe from bombings and had to be reassembled or replaced. Many of these resurrected industrial plants are now working with equipment which is either worn-out or out-of-date. Use of such equipment is hardly conducive to economy and efficiency.

Nevertheless, Taiwan is better endowed with favorable conditions for industrial development than any other province or region in China except for the Northeastern provinces. As for communications, Taiwan is served by more than 1,500 kilometers of railways, as well as about 1,000 kilometers of light railways for hand-propelled cars and over 170,000 kilometers of highways, some of which are very well constructed.

For motive power and lighting, Taiwan possesses power plants capable of producing a peak total of 700,000 kw. (which was reached in 1943), although it has been estimated that when all the major streams are utilized this capacity might reach 2,000,000 kw. Taiwan has an army of technicians (many from China) and skilled laborers. And, what seems more important, the inhabitants are generally friendly, industrious and law-abiding having been accustomed to austere regimentation under the Japanese. The only things Taiwan needs today in order to achieve prosperity are capital with which to rejuvenate her agriculture and industry and good, sympathetic and intelligent leadership.

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Should The Average Chinese Student Study English?

Wang Chin-jen

(The author is a Professor of English, National Northwest Teachers' College, Lanchow—Editor)

IT has been my privilege to read with keen interest and great satisfaction the article written by Mr. Osvalt Sunne on "The Study of Foreign Languages in Chinese Schools" which appeared in the *China Weekly Review* several weeks ago. Not only do I agree entirely with the views he expressed in regards to the study of English in Chinese schools, but also I have become so concerned about the same subject that I am inspired to write an article to verify and to consolidate the arguments that more importance should be attached to spoken English than to the study of classic English, and that due attention should be paid to translation work. For, to quote Mr. Sunne's remarks, "Poor translation is worse than useless."

Many able writers, both Chinese and Western, have written on the importance of the study of English to Chinese students. Therefore, the question "Does it pay for the average Chinese student to study English at all?" may seem quite unnecessary at a time when the study of English is considered one of the most important subjects in the curriculum, from junior middle school to university. I do not flatter myself that I have anything original to contribute, but if there be but one thing in my article which may be of assistance to others, or suggest some profitable mode of teaching, then I have no right to keep it to myself.

Progress Uncertain

First of all, there is no disputing the fact that among the large number of Chinese students who have studied English, only a very small percentage have met with even a small amount of success. Let me cite a few facts to prove this point. In my frequent contacts with students who have studied English for six or seven years or more, I have found, to my greatest disappointment, that they seem to reach a stage where future progress becomes very uncertain. In their conversational and written work, errors pile up; ridiculous grammatical mistakes and idioms become so tangled that I am convinced that their time spent on the study of English has been futile.

To make a long story short, that the study of English in Chinese schools and colleges has been a failure goes without saying. For this particular failure, in the majority of cases, it is the teachers and not the students who should be held responsible and be blamed directly. The present deplorable situation has been gradually built up during these many years of inefficient teaching by disqualified and irresponsible teachers. The most serious problem which accompanies the study of English in Chinese schools today, according to my diagnosis, is the lack of good and well-trained teachers.

Strange Happenings

During my many years of teaching in schools and colleges, I have seen and heard strange things, things which I could not have believed had not my own eyes seen them and my own ears heard them. A few months ago, I had occasion to visit a middle school of high standing in the Northwest, and I happened to converse with a man who has not the faintest idea of the English language. Yet this very man has been engaged by that school as the Number One teacher of English for a period of over 10 years. On another occasion, while I was standing outside the classroom of a certain school, I overheard the teacher eagerly telling his students in Chinese that, though he cannot speak English at all, he can write beautiful English; that spoken English and written English have no relationship whatever; and that one can be a successful writer of English without being able to speak English at all.

On numerous other occasions, I have heard teachers who invariably exhorted their students to spend as much time as they possibly could in studying English grammar, for a thorough knowledge of grammar is *THE ONLY PATH* to success in the study of English. What great humbugs these teachers of English must be! How I wish I could be the principal of these schools, so that I might have the right to discharge such "teachers" outright. I have been to schools where I witnessed the teachers of English bitterly scolding their students for not handing in English compositions on time, yet these same teachers came to me afterwards asking me whether I would be kind enough to write some personal letters for them in English. The head of the English language department of a certain college refuses to speak or to write English under any and all circumstances. I am not exaggerating and can give the names of the people and places in every instance in verification of the above.

Oral English Emphasized

Such being the case, what is to be done about it? Since modern linguists unanimously lay special emphasis on oral work, why should we not follow suit? I am not recommending that the Board of Education now scrap its own plans with regard to the study of English in all schools and colleges. It is, however, highly necessary that effective measures be immediately taken to encourage teachers of English to pay due attention to spoken English, making them realize that, in the study of English, it is impossible to be a good reader, writer, or translator without being, first of all, a good speaker. For it is a mistake to conceive of the English language as primarily *WRITTEN*, of the standard language as expressed in visual symbols, and of speech as only an artificial, secondary, or derived form. Precisely the contrary is true. Nothing can be more absurd than a teacher teaching others English, while the teacher himself speaks no English at all. Yet the whole country is today overrun with teachers of English who either do not speak even tolerably good English or speak no English at all.

If I had my way, no one would be permitted to teach English in a school until there had been written across his diploma, in vermilion, the notation, "The bearer of this diploma speaks good English." When this condition becomes general throughout the country, then I believe we may truly acclaim the study of English in Chinese schools and universities a real success. Until then, however, I must honestly give a negative answer to my own question. "Does it pay for the average Chinese student to study English at all?"

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An Agricultural Experiment

A HIGHLY significant experiment which may have a profound effect on the future of Chinese agriculture is currently being conducted on the island of Pa Kua Chou, about six miles down river from Nanking. Pa Kua Chou has an area of about 10,500 acres of arable land some 1,200 acres of swamp land and supports a population of about 10,000. The soil on the island is rich, the land is level and the site is ideally suited for mechanized agricultural methods.

During the war, however, the Japanese shut the island off from commerce with the mainland. As a result the islanders were forced to rely on their own resources for fuel, food and the other necessities of life. The willows, which had lined its dykes and shores and which provided fuel and materials for its weaving industry, were all consumed in the desperate search for fuel.

Today the island lies completely denuded of trees. Fuel is at a premium and constant soil erosion is washing away much of its rich farming land. Also, erosion occurs in much of the land which could normally be used to increase its yield of food supplies but is lying idle because of the threat of floods.

To alleviate this situation and bring the island back to its once rich state, a number of Government and private agencies, such as the Extension Commission, the National Forestry Research Bureau, the China Relief Mission, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, have banded together and provided the farmers of the island with over 2,000,000 willow cuttings which have been planted along the shore line and on the dykes on the island. These cuttings from the willows lining the banks of the river at Tsu Chow were gathered by refugee labor and paid for by the China Relief Mission.

Once on Pa Kua Chou, they were planted by the farmers on their own lands and became the property of the individual farmers. Other cuttings were planted on public lands by additional refugee labor and became public property to be administered by a committee consisting of representatives of the NFRB, Extension Commission, Nanking Municipal Government, the Pa Kua Chou Farmers' Association and the Pa Kua Chou farmers themselves. The distinction between the latter two groups lies in the fact that the Farmers' Association consists only of the headmen of the various paos or political subdivisions, while the latter representative is chosen directly by the rank and file farmers themselves.

FAO experts, who have served as advisers for the project, estimate that at least 90 percent of the cuttings will live. As a result, by fall, soil erosion will be checked and fuel will be available for the winter. It will be necessary to wait until the spring of 1950, however, before the willows will have attained sufficient growth to be useful for weaving purposes.

But the story does not end here. The enterprising farmers of Pa Kua Chou realized that conservation of the soil was only half the story, that the soil thus conserved must be made to yield more food if their standard of living was to be raised appreciably. Consequently, they petitioned the Nanking Municipal Government to assist them in obtaining machinery to modernize their agricultural methods.

In due course, their petition reached the proper authorities, with the result that today 10 tractors, 10 one-way discs, three 12-foot combines, seed drills, disc harrows, four 12-inch propeller pumps equipped with 50 horsepower Diesel engines and service equipment and parts are on the way to the island where they will take the place of scarce work animals, which the farmers had previously rented from the mainland at considerable cost. The equipment came from UNRRA supplies and was obtained through the National Rehabilitation Commission.

Let no one think, however, that the granting of this equipment to the farmers of Pa Kua Chou constitutes in any sense a dole. The farmers are paying for it themselves. They have organized into a cooperative and arranged to borrow enough from the Farmers' Bank to pay for the equipment, paying interest on the loan at the rate of five percent per month. Once the loan is paid off, the machinery becomes the property of the group as a whole and not of any individual farmer.

One problem they will have to face is that of obtaining sufficient gas and oil to keep their machines running, and of obtaining them at a price that they can afford to pay. In all probability they will have to compete on the open market for these supplies, but they are confident that they will be able to do so.

FAO experts, who have taken part in all phases of the planning and development of the project, estimate that mechanization will increase the per annum yield from the island.

The importance of these experiments lies in three main factors. First, it shows what can be done when a number of Governmental and non-Governmental groups are able to get together to work for a common end. In these two experiments, the China Relief Mission, the National Rehabilitation Commission, the National Agricultural Research Bureau, the National Forestry Research Bureau, the Bureau of Irrigation and Drainage, the National Research Bureau of Animal Industry and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, worked as a team, channeling their advice and assistance to the farmers through the Extension Commission.

Second, they demonstrate that the Chinese farmers have the initiative and are eager to help themselves and are capable of doing so when given the means and the technical assistance necessary.

Finally, and most important, if the experiments succeed, and there is every reason to suppose that they will, they will serve as models to be followed in other areas, and as such may have a profound influence on Chinese agriculture as a whole.

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COLLECTIONS ARE COMBINED IN SIAN

FROM March 16 on, the Sian Municipal Government has been collecting funds for "the suppression of Sian Bandits and the reconstruction of the city." This new enforced contribution includes various old ones, the greater part of which have been paid by the local merchants. It is now said that, in order to "unify miscellaneous local compulsory levy items, simplify collection procedures, alleviate the people's burden and lessen disturbances to the people," the Municipal Government has decided to lump all the various enforced levy items into one and fix upon a total sum to be collected from the people at one time in order to realize well-planned, centralized expenditures and collection. This measure, planned by the Municipal Government, will be carried out with the approval of the Municipal Council.

The expenditures contemplated for the above "Bandit and Reconstruction Campaign" for 1948 are: military expenses, subsidies for the feeding of horses, family allowances for draftees, military defense construction fees, current and temporary expenditures for local militia, subsidies for garrison headquarters, expenses for building three military barracks, military training fees, expenses for local self-government, army comfort fees, operational expenses, auxiliary expenses, etc.

The total of these expenditures for the "Bandit etc. Campaign" will amount to CNC$210,000,000,000. Seventy percent of this sum (CNC-$147,000,000,000) is to be collected from the merchants under the direction of the Chamber of Commerce. Every shop will have to contribute

Cartoons On China

Upper left is a comment upon China's twin problems of an unfavorable trade balance and a budgetary deficit, from *Cheng Yen Pao*. Upper center shows employees worrying over the "order for reducing staff," from *Shang Pao*. Upper right depicts China's concern over the future threat of Japan, the "Shadow Over The Pacific," from the *Hsiang Pao;* Center left is a comment on China's inflation as seen from America. The cartoon appeared in the *Dallas News*. Lower left, from the *Shih Yi Wen Weekly*, is a satirical comment upon the monthly "salary adjustment" in which such increases are said to be so small as to compare with a handful of straw for a hungry Water Buffalo. Lower center, from the *Tieh Pao*, askes how many CNC notes have been issued from the "mouth" of the Ministry of Finance. Lower right, from the *Cheng Yen Pao*, is called "Shedding blood for peace and freedom," and apparently refers to Chinese students, though such is not specifically mentioned.

a sum equal to about 23 times its monthly business tax: for example, if a shop's business tax is CNC$2,000,000 per month, its contribution for the "Sian Bandit Suppression etc. Campaign" will then be CNC$46,000,000. The common people will pay the remaining 30 percent, each person paying a sum equal to twice his house tax. It is said that more than 200 people have been assigned to collect this fund, but that the results of the collection have not been good so far since it is too big a sum for most people to pay all at one time and since it is a new idea.

* * *

With the Communists, under the command of Peng Teh-hwai and Chu Teh, launching an offensive on Shensi, the Garrison Headquarters in Sian proclaimed martial law on March 12 and announced that all "illegal meetings" are prohibited and that citizens must carry their "citizen certificates" with them for inspection at any time. On March 13, the "Three Households Mutual Guarantee" was issued, whereby every citizen was required to register with the Municipal Police Bureau in order to obtain his new citizen certificate. Then, the households were grouped together in threes, the members of each to be responsible for the actions of any of the members of the other three households. At the same time, the old rule of the head of each individual family being responsible for the members of his own household still held. "Those with no citizen certificates and who have not registered for the 'Three Households Guarantee' will be deported"—so the proclamation went. It was also decided by the Municipal Government to hold, once a week, a joint meeting of police and garrison district members for exchange of information.

MARVIN

MARVIN

SWISS WATCH OF PRECISION

SINCE 1850

The Week's Business

DURING the week from April 1 to April 7, Shanghai's business life was featured by three main events: first, the prohibition of forward transactions in stocks which, secondly, led to a sharp drop in share rates, and, third, by a more than 27 percent increase of official foreign exchange rates.

The authorities' decision to prohibit stock forward transactions inside as well as outside the Stock Exchange was explained as being caused by the evil influence of speculative stock market activities on the commodity price level. It was said that trading on the forward market has developed into nothing but another form of gambling and that when quotations jumped on the stock forward market this was regarded by holders of commodities as indicating further general price advances.

No matter whether this conclusion is right or wrong, the fact is that no sooner was the ban announced than stocks slumped on the Stock Exchange. Indeed, representative shares already opened at their lower limit failed to recover during both the morning and afternoon sessions on Monday, April 5. Shares dealt in on curb exchanges, particularly local British stocks, were less impressed.

Stocks recovered, however, though only step by step when on Tuesday, April 6, the Central Bank announced drastic increases of its foreign exchange rates. (Improvements were better on Wednesday.) The general hike was 27.3 percent, with the dollar-pound cross rate remaining unchanged at three dollars for the pound.

Generally speaking, the hike came as no surprise. For quite some time, local financiers had believed that the Central Bank intended to increase its open market rates to such an extent that the gap between official and black rates would diminish, rapidly. When this goal was reached, the Bank would soon arrive at rates almost equal to black rates and thus would create a realistic rate of exchange.

In fact, while black rates, too, went up soon after the 27 percent hike was announced, the advance at first was not in concert and the gap smaller than a month ago. However, the situation became worse on last Wednesday.

By hiking official exchange rates so drastically, the Central Bank no doubt improved the general export situation. Though certainly following the trend, wholesale commodity prices failed to jump 27 percent and exporters were able to buy. At the same time they were able to ship cargo stored for actual export.

Meanwhile, the Government-controlled China Textiles Industries, Incorporated, last week announced that some time ago they had bought 300,000 bales of cotton from the United States, to be delivered in April, May and June. Because of the Europe and China aid programs, raw cotton prices in America have increased—the market is very speculative at present—by around US$5 per bale. The purchase of 300,000 bales some time ago is said to have saved the Government US$1,500,000. Reports concerning the purchase, however, did not indicate whether the 300,000 bales are or are not to be considered part of the China Aid program.

At the same time, it became known that China still has to supply US$10,000,000 worth of products to Japan under the existing barter agreements. The total amount involved in the barter agreement is US$40,000,000; Japan has delivered US$25,000,000 worth and China US$15,000,000—the difference being the US$10,000,000 mentioned above. Chinese observers claim, however, that China is faced by various difficulties concerning fulfillment of her barter obligations, the main obstacle being that SCAP wants the Japanese to obtain cargo from the cheapest possible sources. China is shipping soya beans to Japan to balance the trade.

On the domestic market, prices of all commodities continued to gain after the new hike of foreign exchange rates was announced; but up to the time of writing (Wednesday), price gains still remained below the mentioned hike in official exchange rates.

Easiness on the money market was believed to have been caused partly by the ban in forward stock transactions which resulted in large funds becoming idle, partly in new large remittances of funds from interior provinces.

Quotations

Stocks	Mar. 31 CNC$	Apr. 7 CNC$
Wing On Textile	1,604	1,777
Mayar Silk	—	—
Commercial Press	575	686
Wing On Co.	517	644
Ewo Cotton	1,750,000	2,220,000
Bond C	94,000	97,000

Commodities	Mar. 31 CNC$	Apr. 7 CNC$
White Rice, first	3,500,000	3,950,000
Wheat Four	1,385,000	1,460,000
Peanut Oil	8,000,000	8,750,000
Raw Silk "C"	300,000,000	325,000,000
Jap. Rayon	193,000,000	223,000,000
Cot. Yn. (42)	203,000,000	218,000,000
Cot. Yn. (20)	118,500,000	130,000,000
Caustic Soda	92,000,000	91,000,000
Koo Pan Soap	3,630,000	5,940,000

VITAMINERALS — — — — VITAMINERALS — — — — VITAMINERALS

Vitamin D—A Review Of Its Deficiency

Prepared by Research Dept. of

Vitaminerals Co., Inc., Los Angeles, Cal.

FUNCTIONS AND STATES

Any discussion of the nature and functions of vitamin D must necessarily deal with the condition known as rickets, which is the classic example of a deficiency of this vitamin.

This pathology which at one time was ascribed to unknown causes is now known to be a nutritional deficiency symptom. It was first described as a pathological entity by Whistler in 1645. However, its manifestations were known centuries before. Its effect on the bodies of infants had been observed and described for many years before any worthwhile account of it appeared in medical literature.

The relation of calcium and phosphorus to the malady was first made clear by students of the disease in Baltimore who also discovered the D vitamin and its relation to rickets.

THE SYMPTOMS OF RICKETS

This disease occurs most frequently in infants and children beginning around the fourth month of age but also occurring during school age. Early signs of the onset of rickets include extreme nervousness, irritability and extensive sweating about the head. This is followed by the typical skeletal changes, especially in the ribs, forearms and wrists where the normal progressive calcification of cartilage fails to occur. This includes retardation in ossification of the fontanelles and is followed by imperfect calcification of the long bones resulting in the typical bowleg or knock knees and other skeletal deformities of rickets. In more serious cases the skull is malformed and the jaw may be ill shaped. The teeth appear late and grow too close to each other and possess improper enamel. (5)

There is no fundamental pathological condition in the bone which prevents normal calcification. The change is only brought about by an absence of vitamin D. This has been demonstrated in various ways. Rachitic cartilage when inserted into serum of a rachitic animal does not change its structure. However, if inserted in the presence of serum of a normal animal, calcification does occur. Furthermore when osteogenic tissue is cultured on a medium derived from normal animals, calcified bone is formed but unossified osteoid tissue and cartilage are observed when a vitamin D deficiency medium is used. (1)

The addition of calcium and phosphorus to the vitamin D deficient medium does not bring about calcification. These experiments demonstrate that the formation of bone is dependent upon the presence of Vitamin D as such. (1)

The effects of vitamin D given to rachitic organisms become apparent within twenty-four hours. From the mass of apparently unorganized cartilage cells, orderly arranged osteoblasts are formed and calcification begins. This is preceded by a penetration of the tissue with blood vessels which carry the bone forming salt.

The end result of rickets is due to inability of bones to retain calcium in a solid form. This indicates the close relationship of phosphorus to the metabolism of calcium. During vitamin D deficiency the serum phosphorus is reduced from four to six milligrams percent normal, to one or two milligrams percent.

The effect of administration of vitamin D upon the phosphorus metabolism of the rachitic organism is striking. No further loss through excretion occurs and an immediate increase in all forms of phosphorus in the serum is noted. This evidence proves that vitamin D is intimately concerned with the phosphorus retention of the normal organism which brings about the formation of normal calcium phosphate in the bone structure thus inducing proper calcification or development of the skeleton. (1)

In the broadest aspect vitamin D stimulates growth. While this property is apparently common to all vitamins, at least as a secondary reaction, it seems of primary significance in the case of vitamin D since growth of all animals stops or is retarded in the absence of this vitamin. This retardation of growth is probably quite a fundamental metabolic process because not only is the skeletal structure involved but also muscle degeneration of deterioration is an invariable concomitant of rickets. Failure of the circulatory and heart muscles has been attributed directly to a deficiency of vitamin D, especially in advanced rickets.

Because if is a nutritional deficiency syndrome, rickets either in the advanced state or in subclinical degrees is a reversible process and countless laboratory experiments have demonstrated conclusively that it responds rather promptly to the re-admission of ample amounts of vitamin D to the dietary intake especially when the calcium and phosphorus content of the diet is normal.

THE NATURE AND SOURCES OF VITAMIN D

A few years ago vitamin D was considered to be a single entity whereas it now appears as one of the most complex of all vitamins due either to inherent characteristics or to the fact that investigational work or research has progressed further in revealing an understanding of the complexities of the many anti-rachitic factors. NATURAL VITAMIN D including the provitamins, is now known to consist of at least ten, and possibly more, separate factors, most of them possessing related but still differing chemical structures and each of them apparently possessing different biological activities. (1) Not only do these various factors differ in their biological functions but some of them apparently perform variously in different species. For example, a special preparation of cod liver oil has been selected in the United States Pharmacopoeia as a reference. This material is carefully tested and the response (anti-rachitic power) is arbitrarily designated as a one hundred percent activity. That is, one rat unit of vitamin D from the U.S. reference cod liver oil is arbitrarily taken as one chick unit of vitamin D. Biological experiments have established that a single factor of the natural D complex, in other words, vitamin D3, is also one hundred percent chick active whereas vitamin D2 has practically no chicken activity. The livers of some fish contain vitamin D which are much more than one hundred percent active, thus vitamin D from the white sea bass has been reported to be over three hundred percent chick active and the vitamin D from dogfish about two hundred and thirty percent active. (1) A careful analysis of these results lead investigators to believe that these high chicken potencies of special fish oils are due to the presence of a real vitamin D, that is to one new and so far unknown form. (1)

PROVITAMINS D

Vitamin D has a limited distribution in food, which perhaps accounts for the widespread deficiency—especially in view of the fact that modern living conditions defeat the original purpose of Nature, by interfering with sufficient exposure to sunlight. The living plant tissue and green vegetables contain no detectable amount of this vitamin, although some of them do contain a few of the provitamins. Vitamin D occurs only

VITAMINERALS — — — — VITAMINERALS — — — — VITAMINERALS

in small quantities in most members of the animal Kingdom, only a few classes of animals and of animal products contain significant amounts. Unlike vitamin A, there is no particular storage point for this vitamin in the animal organism. Egg yolks are comparatively rich in vitamin D and milk is a fair source when obtained from pasture fed cows, or when irradiated. Milk from winter cows contains only about five units of vitamin D per quart. (2)

Aside from dietary supplements, the most abundant source of vitamin D for man, lies in the activation of cholesterol in the natural oils of skin by irradiation from the ultra violet rays of sunlight, although the limitating factors of clothing, atmospheric dust and smoke, indoor occupations and seasonal variations in the length of daylight explain in a large measure, the widely prevailing deficiencies of vitamin D.

FUNCTIONS OF VITAMIN D

Vitamin D is essential for mobilizing dietary calcium and phosphorus for bone formation particularly during the springing up period, infancy, second dentition and pubescence. (2) It makes possible the most efficient utilization of these minerals. Vitamin D facilitates calcification of bones and teeth by increasing intestinal absorption of calcium and phosphates and accelerating their precipitation from the blood. In making calcium available to the body, vitamin D is involved indirectly in the regulation of heart rhythm, muscle tone, nerve excitability, blood coagulation and membrane permeability. (3)

Vitamin D serves as the balance wheel in the action of the parathyroid glands. Vitamin D regulates the absorption of calcium and phosphorus, whereas the parathyroid gland controls the elimination of calcium and phosphorus. (2)

RELATION TO OTHER VITAMINS AND HORMONES

An integral part of the physiological action of the vitamins, is their various influence on the secretion of hormones and on the metabolism of inorganic compounds or in other words, minerals. While this physiological action is not necessarily confined solely to vitamins, yet it is evident that a deficiency, particularly of vitamin A, E, D, B complex and C, results in damage not only to the entire organism but specifically to the loss of vitality in the glands and as a result of this the effective secretions are reduced.

It seems fairly well established that vitamin D is intimately concerned with proper function of the thyroid and parathyroid glands. In fact in experimental animals a deficiency of vitamin D has been offset by the administration of thyroid extract. (1)

The parathyroid gland influences the calcium metabolism but in an entirely different manner from the influence which vitamin D exerts. Parathyroid increases the calcium level in blood serum, however, vitamin D raises the phosphorus level. Thus in two entirely different ways these related factors control the assimilation and utilization of calcium and phosphorus. Parathyroid causes an increase of ionized calcium in the blood, vitamin D causes an increase of bound calcium. Parathyroid stimulates the withdrawal of calcium from the body whereas vitamin D stimulates its retention. It has been suggested that the ovaries influence rickets since mothers after childbirth sometimes become rachitic. It has also been reported that vitamin D is concerned in the function of the thymus gland although investigators are not completely in agreement on this point. (1)

The function of vitamin C in proper wound healing, which in turn, is influenced by the calcium content of blood of blood serum is another indication of the interrelationship of vitamins C and D. This latter vitamin also seems to be somewhat related physiologically to vitamin A since both a deficiency of vitamin A and a calcium deficiency apparently lower resistance to infection through inducing damage to the respiratory mucosa.

In the cardio-vascular system a theoretical relationship between vitamin D and vitamins A, B complex and C is rather apparent. It has been demonstrated in animal experiments for example that a vitamin A deficiency produces lesions in the circulatory system. (1) Vitamin C is apparently necessary for proper vascular tone and the influence of B complex vitamins on the proper function of heart muscles seems fairly well established. (4) Finally, it has been widely observed that an adequate dietary intake of vitamin D and likewise of calcium is necessary in maintenance of normal heart rhythm and that a deficiency induces calcification of the walls of veins, arteries and capillaries. (2).

Thus is revealed the importance of considering as well the other related vitamins and minerals when dealing with a condition attributable to a deficiency of vitamin D.

TOXICITY

The toxic effect from administration of massive doses of vitamin D have been noted by many investigators, although the amount required to produce unfavorable symptoms is extremely large when compared to the average daily dietary intake. No exact figures are available, but various investigators set the toxic threshold of vitamin D for human beings, at somewhere between 800,000 and 1,000,000 units ingested daily over a long period of time. IT IS STATED BY SOME INVESTIGATORS THAT TOXIC SYMPTOMS ARE MORE READILY OBSERVED WITH THE USE OF SYNTHETIC VITAMIN D OR VIOSTEROL, THAN WITH THE NATURAL VITAMIN D. (1) This may or may not be due to the fact that in the production of synthetic vitamin D by activation of sterols, particularly ergosterol, a complex series of chemical changes takes place both before and after the desired product, in other words viosterol, is produced. In this activation process a great many intermediate compounds are formed, among them which is viosterol, or synthetic vitamin D2. Further irradiation produces additional chemical compounds, leading finally to a chemical called toxisterol which possesses no vitamin D or anti-rachitic activity, but is extremely poisonous. Here again is an example of depending upon Nature's balance to provide proper nutritional factors by depending on natural vitamin D which contains not only vitamin D3, but many other known and unknown factors of the natural D complex.

SUMMARY

In view of the limited distribution of this vitamin in ordinary foodstuffs and the fact that relatively none of it is found in vegetables, together with the restrictions imposed by clothing, indoor occupations, climate, atmospheric dust and smoke, etc., to adequate sunshine exposure indicate the desirability for considering additional dietary intake of vitamin D not only in rickets but also in indications of a sub-clinical deficiency involving those organs and tissues known to require this and related vitamin and minerals.

NATURAL VITAMIN D from fish liver oils is now known to contain at least ten, or possibly more, separate factors possessing different biological functions and activities as contrasted to the single factor present in the synthetic vitamin D, or viosterol. Animal experiments have indicated that the anti-rachitic power of NATURAL VITAMIN D is about one and a half times that of the synthetic viosterol. (1)

It becomes apparent from the evidence of the interrelation between vitamin D and the vitamins A, B complex, C, and E that in order to afford the maximum result from the administration of D, it is necessary to supplement the diet with all the other recognized vitamins.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK

Chiang Not To Run For Presidency; Aid Bill Signed By Truman

THE National Assembly, which was formally inaugurated on March 29, is not doing a fine job. After a week's deliberations and much heated debate, the Assembly experienced great difficulty in electing a presidium, the first technical item on the agenda. All the meetings which have been held so far were of a "preparatory" character and the formal session of the National Assembly has not yet started.

The dispute arising from the "popularly-elected" delegates is not settled and eight such delegates are still on a Chinese style hunger strike.

Gissimo Not To Run

The basic task of the present session of the National Assembly is said to be the election of the president and the vice president of the Chinese Republic. It has been considered as a foregone conclusion for some time that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek will be elected president. Therefore, the Generalissimo created a sensation or rather a shock when he announced at a meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang that he did not intend to participate in the campaign for the presidency." He stressed that "this is not mere modesty. It is my sincere conviction."

However, the Generalissimo promised: "I am ever ready to assist the president in carrying out the democratic principles embodied in the Constitution. I shall contribute what I have and what I am as a soldier to defend the country.... This does not mean that I shall shirk the responsibility toward our revolutionary cause and our beloved country. Aside from the presidency and vice presidency, I shall not fail to answer the call of the new government."

INFORMED quarters interpreted the Generalissimo's announcement as a desire for holding the key post of premier in the new constitutional government. It is pointed out that under the new constitution the premier's job in many respects is more important than that of the president. Some quarters predicted the Generalissimo would probably take a rest and temporarily leave the Government altogether as he has done on two previous occasions.

Well-informed Government officials in Washington, however, voiced doubt that Generalissimo Chiang will be able to relinquish the presidency of China despite his announcement that he would not seek re-election. They believed that the pressure of public opinion within China, combined with the lack of any other outstanding candidates, might well result in his continuing in that position. In some quarters, the Generalissimo's statement was regarded as a bid for "draft" which would solidify Chinese public opinion behind the Nanking Government.

Some competent observers expressed the opinion that if it became apparent that Chiang would not continue as president under any circumstances, the act would be interpreted as indicating that he believed the Chinese Government's fight against Communism has defintely been lost. It is pointed out that as Chinese Communists now hold "99 percent of Manchuria, 85 percent of North China north of the Yellow River and east of Sian, and have a number of pockets south of the Yangtze River it is possible that Chiang may have decided to get out from under before the collapse."

The Central Standing Committee of the Kuomintang at an emergency meeting held April 5 resolved to draft the Generalissimo as presidential candidate despite his intention to abstain from running. The consensus of opinion was that the Generalissimo's refusal to run for presidency but acceptance of a minor role laid him open only to the premiership. It is argued that this, under the new constitution, would render him incapable of enforcing his decisions without the consent of the president. It is further pointed out that the Generalissimo's high position should not permit him to accept subservience, despite his modesty and obvious inclination to do so.

Qualifications

IN announcing his intention not to run for the presidency, Generalissimo Chiang said that the president should not be a member of the Kuomintang and should be a man who has an understanding of Chinese culture and has done research in international problems. Moreover, he should be a man who is courageous in fighting for the welfare of the Chinese people and the Chinese nation. Observers in Nanking immediately singled out Dr. Hu Shih as the person the Generalissimo may have in mind in setting forth the qualifications for a presidential candidate.

President of the Executive Yuan Chang Chun categorically denied press reports that General Douglas MacArthur had invited Generalissimo Chiang to meet him to discuss the American aid program. According to General Chang, "MacArthur has no authority to make such an invitation."

It will be interesting to recall that previous reports in the Chinese press stated that General MacArthur had recommended a meeting with Generalissimo Chiang for the purpose of discussing details regarding American aid for China and concerted action in the Far East to check Communist expansion.

Fighting In North

THE fighting in Manchuria and North China witnessed a slight easing up during the past week, with both the Nationalists and the Communists making feverish preparations for a new battle. In Manchuria, the Reds are reported to be massing troops for a final drive on Changchun, while the Nationalists claimed to have recaptured Liaoyang, Anshan and Haicheng, three strategic centers on the southern Manchurian front. It was further reported that the Nationalists are going to launch a combined land-sea-air operation in a bid to recapture the Southern Manchurian port of Yingkow and to clear the path north to Mukden. Competent military observers are inclined to think that with the situation in Manchuria as it is today, it is no easy job to reopen the land corridor linking Yinkow with Mukden.

In North China, the United Press reported that the Government's military position has definitely worsened as a result of the Communist thrust into Inner Mongolia. According to neutral observers, Communist troops who invaded the Northwestern provinces while the main Red armies in the Northeast are being rested and redeployed accomplished their two basic aims. First, they cut the Peiping-Suiyuan Railway, thus completing disruption of all four railway arteries north of the Yellow River. The flow of supplies to General Fu Tso-yi's divisions in the Paoting-Peiping-Tientsin triangle was interrupted. Second, they have drawn some of these divisions back into Inner Mongolia, thus weakening the Nationalist position in Hopei. If and when the main Communist strength in Manchuria strikes south of the Great Wall, the presence of an active "second front" in Inner Mongolia would catch General Fu between the hammer and sickle.

In Suiyuan, Communist units are reported to be threatening the provincial capital, Kweisui, where the situation is very tense because the lack of transportation facilities prevented the Nationalists from rush-

ing heavy reinforcements to its relief.

New Strategy

A SPOKESMAN for the North China Bandit-Suppression Headquarters told the press that although the Communist offensive in Inner Mongolia had been smashed, the main forces of Communist General Nieh Yung-cheng's columns were still intact. He stressed that despite all efforts of the Nationalist troops, the Communists managed to evade open battle and retreat to mountainous regions.

A Government military spokesman announced March 31 in Nanking that Government forces will abandon centers which have lost their strategic value" in order to achieve greater concentration and mobility against the rebels." As the result of this new strategy, the Government forces evacuated Lungkow, Penglai and Weihaiwei on the Shantung coast. According to the said spokesman, "the three ports are devoid of any strategic importance in view of the Government's naval and air domination of the entire Gulf of Chihli and its occupation by ground forces of Changshan and Liukang, two islets guarding the approaches to Lungkow and Weihaiwei respectively."

US Answer

THE Foreign Aid Bill which was passed by Congress was formally signed by President Truman on April 3. He said he was quite fortunate in doing so because "few Presidents have had an opportunity to sign legislation of such importance."

The US$6,098,000,000 Foreign Aid Bill includes US$460,000,000 for military and economic aid for China.

President Truman called the Bill "the United States answer to the challenge facing the free world today." He stressed: "The Foreign Assistance Act is the best answer this country can make in reply to the vicious and distorted misrepresentations of our efforts for peace which have been spread abroad by those who do not wish our efforts to succeed. It is a measure for reconstruction, stability and peace. Its purpose is to assist in the preservation of conditions under which free institutions can survive."

Secretary of State General Marshall interpreted the signing of the bill as marking "an historic step in the foreign policy of our country."

Washington meant what it said. The first supply ship started overseas by sundown April 3 when the bill was signed. According to dispatches from Nanking, five shiploads of United States arms and ammunition, sufficient to re-equip seven Chinese Government divisions, are now en route to Shanghai. It is further disclosed that by the beginning of next year a total of 35 Government divisions will have been refitted with American equipment, which is expected to become a decisive factor in turning the tide of the Civil War in the Government's favor. It is not known whether the present arms consignment was made under the US$150,000,000 military aid program approved for China or as part of war surplus sales.

The United States is pushing ahead with its preparedness. The United States Air Forces in the Far East, notably in Japan and Okinawa, have been placed in a state of "alert" and ordered to be prepared for any eventuality. General MacArthur is maintaining constant contact with Washington and is taking every precaution to prevent anything like a "second Pearl Harbor" in the event Russia should decide to emulate the Japanese militarists.

According to *AP*, new calls arose in the United States for a greater preparedness program to show Russia that Uncle Sam will not be pushed around. The two biggest American veteran organizations, the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, urged universal military training and a limited peacetime draft. The House Armed Service Committee questioned for two hours Secretary of Air Stuart Symington on plans for a 72 group air force. At present, the United States has 55 groups. Representative John Rankin urged the United States to build "the greatest air force in the world." President Truman asked Congress for US$3,000,000,000 more for preparedness to "carry out our purpose of achieving peace." The House adopted a US$324,000,000 appropriation bill giving US$150,000,000 of new funds to the Atomic Energy Commission.

Diplomatic Game

ON the diplomatic front, the United States proposed at the Pan-American Conference at Bogota that the American nations investigate the "problem of foreign-inspired subversive activities directed against the institutions, peace and security of the American republics." The proposed inclusion of Spain in the European Recovery Program was finally dropped by Congress under pressure of public opinion in the United States and in foreign countries. However, it is considered as indicative of the present sentiment of US Congress regarding international relations.

Myron Taylor, President Truman's personal representative at the Vatican, met Spain's fascist dictator Franco on the night of April 1. The strictest reserve was being maintained both at Washington and Madrid about the talks they had. Political observers smelt a rat in this affair.

In Japan, things are moving pretty fast. US Under Secretary of the Army Draper is expected to present his recommendations to President Truman as the result of his recent mission to Tokyo. Sources close to the mission revealed that Draper's report will amount to an American plan for returning Japan to her peace-time economic basis, even before the peace treaty is signed. It is said that the final report probably will contain the following points:

(1) Japan must be made self-supporting to reduce the cost of occupation to American tax payers.

(2) This can be done with American aid even before the peace treaty is signed.

(3) The Japanese reparations question must be settled as soon as possible.

(4) Japanese trade with foreign countries must be expanded, especially her textile trade.

(5) Japan's shipping must be rebuilt.

(6) Controls on businesses must be removed and free enterprises allowed to speed up the economic recovery.

(7) Congress must appropriate at least $500,000,000 for Japan in the fiscal year of 1949, including $150,000,000 for use as a revolving fund to buy materials necessary in the rehabilitation program.

(8) Care must be taken to see that the Japanese do everything they can to help themselves.

(9) The United States must not freeze Japan's industrial capacity at the 1930-34 level, if Japan can achieve a higher level through her own efforts without resorting to war industries.

(10 Japan's trade would not be restricted to America and efforts should be made to see that Japan has the opportunity to trade with all countries.

(11) All assistance should be given with the idea of making Japan the "workshop of the Far East."

(12) Improved technique should be introduced into Japanese industry.

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US Magazine Roundup

Bay Area Business

IN the fall, 1947, issue of the West Coast quarterly, *Bay Area Business*, John E. Fields, editor and publisher of *Far East Trader*, reviews the United States' stake in China's future in his article entitled "Customers or Communists."

He says: "A sick China cannot exist if there is to be a healthy Asia, and that goal will remain remote—as declining tonnages of shipments to the Orient from every American port plainly show—unless we soon come up with a cure.

"Such a cure first requires food and other commodities for the workers, in order to give them the strength and incentive to work. Second, it requires materials and machinery for the resumption of production to regain self-sufficiency in the basic goods necessary for decent survival, and a surplus of non-essential goods with which to trade for necessities from the rest of the world."

He sees three choices of action in China open to the United States: that of helping the National Government, that of aiding the Chinese Communists and that of "letting the situation alone, which would leave us with the cleanest hands, but perhaps the bloodiest head." He considers the first choice "by no means one which we can accept with any relish," and the second "quite impossible."

As to the third, that of doing nothing, he says: "Many of our liberals still argue that such an event (the fall of the Government to the Communists) would not necessarily toll the bell of doom, as they consider that the Chinese movement is in essence a land reform movement, and would not necessitate the assumption of the tenets of communism, or adhere to the Russian bloc. But by the very nature of the organization of the Chinese Communists, it would be quite impossible for them to erect a framework of government in China which would not be susceptible and vulnerable to Russian influence and infiltration. The prospect, therefore, of permitting the creation of a vast Poland on our Pacific flank is not one that is inviting to the present proponents of the two-world world.

"Thus, we are left with only the first choice—aid to the Central Government—open to us." Since this is the case, Mr. Fields feels that "we should attempt not only to turn it to our strategic advantage, but also to our economic advantage, and towards the achievement of the principles of human rights and liberties which we endorse."

He admits that it is obviously impossible to crush Chinese communism by force of arms since its basis and framework is a desire for land reform. Until such reforms are carried out in the whole of China, "thus removing its reason for being, communism will inevitably re-arise in a new form and under a new name."

Therefore, Mr. Fields suggests that our military aid be limited to "holding the line" of Communism at given boundaries, and that we should concentrate our forces in the "economic stabilization of the non-combatant areas."

In doing this, we should "set ourselves limited objectives. In terms of industrial and transport rehabilitation and expansion, we should point toward geographical concentration of our assistance. We should seek islands of productivity, where we can get the most for our money, as a businessman might say. These areas might primarily include the Canton-Hankow strip, the lower Yangtze valley, the Shantung peninsula and the Tientsin-Peking strip. In these areas, we will not only find the attributes and facilities for production, but also an economic atmosphere eager for (and conducive to) rehabilitation and an end to siphoning off wealth and resources into a bottomless political pit.

"We will also find merchants who, in their own self-interest, are more susceptible to the need for trade and production, and are more cognizant of the long-range economic benefits of social progress, than are the medieval-minded landlords who cluster around the Central Government."

Mr. Fields concludes: "Money alone cannot solve the problem of our stake in Asia, but money talks, and we might as well make it talk in strong language. If we help do for the Chinese what they so far seem incapable of doing themselves, future historians will not judge us harshly."

* * *

New Republic

"THE Truman Doctrine has been a fizzle on its major testing ground . . ."—so Jan Hasbrouck says in his article, "Greece: Halfway to Failure," which appeared in the February 22 issue of the *New Republic*. "This," he continues, "is the conclusion of President Truman's own State Department in a report recently transmitted to Congress of the department's stewardship in Greece.

"The report naturally does not state such a conclusion so boldly, but it presents evidence that Greece, 11 months after enunciation of the Truman Doctrine, is no better off internationally and the Western world is no safer from the 'Red menace.'

"Even before Congress voted the $300,000,000 asked (by the Greek government for financial and economic assistance), it became clear that a good proportion of the money was to be used for military purposes . . . Finally half the money was set aside for military and naval expenditures.

"During the summer months, a Greek army of 120,000 men—Greeks like those who routed Mussolini's mechanized legions in 1940—did battle with 20,000 guerrillas. The net result, according to the State Department and US military men on the spot, was an increase in the number of guerrillas and an extension of their holdings until they now dominate, in rough terms, all of Greece above a 1,000-foot elevation, or some 80 percent of the land area . . .

One State Department cynic said it would have been cheaper to make a CAF-2 (a US civil-service category) out of each guerrilla. *With a US expenditure to date of some $8,760 per guerrilla*, this would have saved a lot of money and certainly have been no less effective. . ."

Mr. Hasbrouck tells of the efforts of the 150 "well qualified, conscientious US civil servants who are hopelessly frustrated by the confusion, obscruantism, obsequious venality and downright obstructionism of the Greek government. We went to Greece to bolster a democracy; anyone who looked beyond the front pages of the newspapers knew that Greece was an oligarchy. But few suspected how tenaciously the small group of millionaires who have run Greece for a century would frustrate the US mission at every turn. The last thing these men want is communism, but the next to last is real democracy.

"The future of US aid to Greece looks just like its recent past—bloody, only more so. ERP will take care of the relief and rehabilitation needs of the Greek people (but) the President will ask for more money to prosecute the war . . . There will be a big spring offensive against the guerrillas by troops which, according to US military men, are quite adequately armed but have no stomach for civil war. The results in cleared territory may look well on maps, but what is government territory today will be shaded red again the day after tomorrow. And inflation and starvation will continue.

"The only true solution is on a different plane. The State Department report indicates that even if US Marines were to kill every guerrilla now in the field, there would be no peace. Democracy is not established that way. The report supports the argument of those who contend that there must be a general settlement with Russia in which, among many other things, both sides withdraw military support from Greece. Simultaneously, a United Nations commission, with police power if necessary, must hold a genuine election in Greece and see that a government is formed which reflects the results. Then would be the time to chase guerrillas, if there were any."

The Review's English Lesson—XXVI

Idioms and Slang from the Review, More Prepositions, Letter of Application and a Quotation

From the first editorial (p. 129) of the April 3rd issue of the *Review*, we have selected a number of words and phrases which might have caused you difficulty. The words and phrases are given below with three possible meanings. Study the words, phrases and meanings, check the one you think is correct and then refer to the end of the Lesson, where the correct meanings are given. You can look back at the article, if necessary, and get the context of the idiomatic expressions.

Tread on the toes of (paragraph 4)—(1) cause physical injury to; (2) hurt the feelings of; (3) cause a tread mark to be left on the toes.

Speak my piece (paragraph 9)—(1) make my criticisms; (2) read my speech; (3) say everything I have to say in order to explain my point of view.

The opposition is entirely tongue-tied (p. 11)—(1) the opposition has an impediment in its speech; (2) the opposition speaks another language; (3) the opposition is silent because it is unable to say anything.

Trade 'space for time' (p. 12)—(1) retreat and delay an encounter with the enemy; (2) negotiate with the enemy; (3) trade a certain area of land to the enemy in return for concessions from them.

Shed interesting light on this (p. 14)—(1) gave added interesting information on the subject; (2) illumined the situation with a spotlight; (3) gave spiritual enlightenment on the subject.

Brush off these objections (p. 24)—(1) remove with a violent physical gesture; (2) disregard or cast aside the objections; (3) make improvements in a situation so that there will be no objections.

Bring it to bear (p. 24)—(1) to produce results; (2) transport a burden; (3) to make an action successful.

Orders in the field (p. 27)—(1) commands in the field of military strategy; (2) commands in the rural areas surrounding the cities; (3) commands in the areas where military operations were taking place.

To finish the war coasting (p. 30)—(1) conclude the war without expending any effort; (2) finish the war while the enemy remains on the coast; (3) to finish the war despite avoiding major engagements with the enemy.

Out of shape (p. 39)—(1) in fine physical condition; (2) in poor physical conditions; (3) in an unhappy mental condition.

Live with himself (p. 47)—(1) be contept that he has acted virtuously to the best of his ability; (2) live without the company of other people; (3) be smug.

Last week we tried to explain how to use the prepositions "before" and "after." Because we have received several letters from readers who said they have trouble with English prepositions, this week we shall explain two more prepositions.

About—is also used as an adverb. The following explains it as a preposition: Means on every side of; near by; here and there; engaged in; on the verge of; concerning or with regard to; appertaining to.

There are fences about (on every side of) the farm. There are thieves about (near by) the neighborhood. There are trees planted about (here and there in) the park. He is going about (is engaged in) his business. She was about (on the verge of) to take her own life. Wang is reading about (concerning) agricultural commodities. There is something sly about (appertaining to) that tall girl. Have you money about (on your person) you? They often talk about (in regard to) you. I wish that you would see about (arrange or settle) it.

Beside—is rarely used as an adverb. When it is used as a preposition it means at or by the side of; on one side of; near by; hence, compared with; over and above or to one side of.

We sat beside (by the side of) the fire. The automobile is beside (on one side of) the house. The cottage is beside (near by) the sea. Beside (compared with) Mei-ling she is not beautiful. Your question is beside (to one side of or irrelevant to) the main argument. He is beside himself (uncontrollably angry) because of his defeat.

Below is given a model letter that could be used in applying for a job.

234 Kiangsi Road
Shanghai, China
April 1, 1948

Mr. Wu Lung-hsi
Whipple, Snow and Company
524 The Bund
Shanghai, China

Dear Mr. Wu:

Mr. Wong Kung-chen of your office told me recently that you have a position for another assistant in your blue-print department. If you have not yet employed anyone, I should like to be considered an applicant for the job.

Last June I was graduated at the age of eighteen from the Shanghai American School, where I specialized for three years in architectural drawing. In the Technical Schools Exhibit in Shanghai, three of my drawings were submitted by Mr. Gibbs, and one of them was awarded second prize in Class B. Since June 15 I have been working in the office of the China Development Corporation and have been gaining some valuable experience. Though I was only hired for three months, I believe that the manager would keep me if I wanted to stay. I am hoping, however, to secure a position that will give me more training in drafting than I am now getting. I am in excellent health.

As to my character and fitness for the position, I am permitted to refer you to the following men: Mr. R. L. Klein, head of the Department of Architectural Drawing, Shanghai American School; Mr. T. A. Hsu of the China Development Corporation; and Mr. Gordon Conway, 64 The Bund, Shanghai.

If you wish to see me, I shall be glad to call at your office. During working hours you can reach me by telephone at 68819, and in the evening by calling 74765.

Sincerely yours,
(WANG FANG-LIN).

COMING ATTRACTIONS!

We have received a gratifying response to our questions on what you would like us to print in the English Lesson. The only disappointment was that all the letters except one were from men. Don't women read the *Review*? Or do the women know all the things we tell you in the Lessons, so don't bother with them? We shall print the results from the questionnaire when all the answers are in. That should be in a week or two.

In the next Lesson we shall print the best translation of the test paragraph in Lesson XXIV.

Many readers have requested that we print quotations from famous speeches. From the funeral oration of Pericles before the people of Athens (B.C. 431), one of the famous speeches of history, we quote the following:

"For it is only the love of honor that never grows old; and honor it is, not gain, as some would have it, that rejoices the heart of age and helplessness."

ANSWERS TO TEST

tread on the toes of—2
speak my piece—3
the opposition is entirely tongue-tied—3
trade 'space for time'—1
shed interesting light on this—1
brush off these objections—2
bring it to bear—1
orders in the field—3
to finish the war coasting—1
out of shape—2
live with himself—1

What US Papers Say

THE Far Eastern Commission's policy of stripping Japan of her arms was commented on favorably in recent US press editorials. Rural aid for China was urged by some papers which felt that to improve the lot of Chinese farmers in Nationalist territory would be one of the best ways of combating Communist influence. The convocation of the Chinese National Assembly and the land redistribution program in South Korea were also subjects of editorial comment.

* * *

Japan

THE *New York Herald Tribune*, in an editorial entitled "Policy for Japan," said in part: "The Far Eastern Commission, on which 11 nations are represented, made a sound decision when it ordered Japan stripped for the present of all arms except rifles and pistols carried by civilian police and shotguns carried by hunters. The commission, it appears, has not been affected so far by arguments similar to those which led to so many mistakes in dealing with World War I. Neither suggestions of military men that Japan should be used at once as a bastion against the Russians nor proposals of conservative businessmen that trade be carried on with Japan on a prewar basis have produced any unfortunate errors—to date—by either the commission or the American State Department . . .

"Serious American problems in connection with Japan are those of carrying out policy rather than making it. They have been increased somewhat in recent weeks by absurd complaints to the effect that General MacAuthur (of all people) is too radical. There has been a tendency, also, to broaden these complaints in order to attribute errors to basic policy as well as to the General, especially in relation to efforts to break up the great family monopolies of Japan. As a whole, the complaints seem to be without justification. Modifications of American policy in Japan may be needed from time to time, but the policy job has been done well enough so that no extreme changes should be needed for a long time to come."

The *Washington Times-Herald* took a dissenting view, saying: "Of course, no American that we know of wants to see Japan stage a comeback as a big and menacing Far East fighting power. But isn't this plan to make the country 100 percent impotent going a bit too far? . . . With Russia (expanding) in all directions, we may badly need, some day, the strongest ally in the far Pacific."

* * *

Aid for Rural China

THE *Christian Science Monitor*, commenting on land reform in China, said recently: "When Justice Douglas declared the other day that the fight against Communism would be decided not on the battlefields but on the rice fields, his words applied with particular force to China. Both Chinese and American liberals have long insisted that the National Government of China could never compete successfully with the Communists until it gains the support of the peasants through a long-scale land reform program. Now it has announced such a program. This includes distribution of free land to the family of every Government soldier—as a means of raising the dismal morale of the troops.

"So far so good. Americans, however, will do well to remember that a very fine land reform law has been on the books of the National Government for two decades—a dead letter law. Only the Chinese Communists have carried out its provisions, even announcing their land (reforms) of January 1943 as 'made in accordance with the fundamental principles of the Chinese National Land Act' which has been ignored by the Nationalists since 1930.

"If the military aid also provided by the House bill (to the tune of US $100,000,000) could be withheld until the Chinese Government took effective action on its land program, this would add needed pressure while saving millions of American dollars meanwhile from going down a notorious rathole."

The *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, referring to Senator Vandenberg's withdrawn criticism of the Chinese Government, observed: "Diplomatically speaking, Senator Vandenberg is perhaps correct in withdrawing the critical report . . . Actually, the report was true and Senator Vandenberg does not really deny it. . . . Communism will continue to grow until the Nationalist Government becomes as interested in eliminating the causes of Communism as in fighting its armies."

* * *

Chinese National Assembly

A *New York Times* editorial, dealing with the recent convocation of the Chinese National Assembly, said in part: "For the first time in some 4,000 years of Chinese history and nearly 50 years after the outbreak of the Chinese Revolution, a popularly elected National Assembly is scheduled to meet in Nanking today to begin the arduous task of converting the largest nation on earth from a feudal and patriarchal autocracy into a modern constitutional democracy. The problem is complicated beyond anything experienced in the West, not only because of the size of China and the vastness and comparative illiteracy of its population, but above all by the fact that democratic government is still alien to all its ancient traditions and institutions, and will require complete transformation before it can become a living reality. . . ."

Describing Chiang's promise to the two minority parties of "representation considerably beyond their popular strength'" and his withholding of Assembly seats from the KMT independent candidates as being "not exactly a democratic device," the *Times* goes on to forgive the act by saying: "Chiang . . . is doing what he can to build up new parties that must grow someday into an opposition able not only to criticize the Government but also to take over the Government on their own responsibility. That effort on the part of Chiang is not only the best answer to his critics but also a most cogent argument for Congress to speed up the aid so urgently needed to enable the Chinese Government to cope with the Russo-Communist menace that confronts it."

* * *

Korea

THE *New York Times*, in an editorial on Korea, said recently: "At long last some 500,000 farmers in the US occupation zone of Korea are to have an opportunity to buy the land many of them have been tilling on a crop-rental basis for many years, first for the Japanese and then for the American Military Government as landlord. This is the most foreward step yet taken to give Korea back to the Koreans.

"No money will be involved in the payments. The farmers will pay with rice, or whatever is the principal crops of the farms they buy at a rate of 20 percent of the crop for 15 years. This is less than the rental they paid for use of the land both to the Japanese and then to the AMG-organized Korea Company which took over Jap assets after the surrender. The rental then was 53 percent and up.

"Disposal of these 630,000 acres, which comprise 18.3 percent of Korea's rice lands, is not a full solution of the land redistribution of South Korea, but it is a long step forward. . . Failure to act has been one of the strongest talking points against the United States of the Communists and other leftist groups in South Korea. . .

"Institution of the land redistribution plan could have an important effect on the May 9 elections. . . Certainly it cannot fail to strengthen the moderate forces, who have had few arguments to present until now against the enticing mirage of a farm for every farmer that was painted by the Communists. Any Korean government set up can be expected to carry land redistribution even further and break up some of the big land-holding estates, which are not too numerous but which do comprise perhaps half of the acreage of South Korea."

What Chinese Papers Say

The inauguration of the National Assembly drew much comment in the Chinese press last week. Even Government-controlled newspapers epxressed deep concern over United States' policy toward Japan.

* * *

National Assembly

The *Ta Kung Pao* regretted the absence of popular enthusiasm about the National Assembly.

"Fighting is still in progress in this country. The financial situation is quite unstable. There is no internal peace or national unity to speak of. As a result, there is very little public enthusiasm over the current National Assembly. However, we cannot blame the people for their lack of enthusiasm, for it is the general situation that should be held responsible for this deplorable state of things. If peace and national unity had been achieved and if the National Assembly had been called with the participation of the whole nation, there would have been much public rejoicing throughout the country. Therefore on the present occasion of the inauguration of the National Assembly, let us pray for the ultimate achievement of peace, national unity, democracy and progress."

The *Shun Pao* interpreted the convocation of the National Assembly as the first step toward the establishment of democratic constitutional government in China and argued that in spite of the implementation of the Constitution, the immediate concern of the Government should be to continue its suppression of the Communists."

"The most important task of the Government," the paper stressed, "is to quell the Communist rebellion and reconstruct the nation. For this purpose, it is necessary to find the cause of the rebellion....Since the promulgation of the General Mobilization Order, the strength of the Communists has not been reduced and subversive activities by Communists have extended to large proportions. How is this explained?

"The government has been corrupt and inefficient. But a most important factor is that the Kuomintang, while claiming to believe in Dr. Sun Yat-sen's San Min Chu I, has done very little to carry out Dr. Sun's principles in practice. The failure of the Kuomintang to regulate private capital and distribute land to the peasants as provided for in Dr. Sun's Principle of People's Livelihood, is particularly regrettable.

"None of the required economic reforms have been seriously effected by the Government. As a matter of fact, the Chinese Communists have stolen the thunder. This is the reason why ignorant Chinese peasants have blindly followed the Communists and even foreign correspondents have wrongly regarded the Communist bandits as a political party which stands for 'agrarian reform.' The Kuomintang must admit this mistake and reflect carefully."

The *Lih Pao* blames the current dispute over allocation of seats in the National Assembly on the various parties concerned.

"The dispute reflects the poor organization of the various political parties in this country. It is the result of the wrong measures they have taken. Although the Kuomintang has accomplished much during the past fifty years, it has also betrayed many inexcusable weaknesses. The selection and election of delegates to the National Assembly not only has disappointed the people but also has created dissension in the ranks of Kuomintang members. The responsible authorities must realize that it is not the party members, but rather the party itself, that should be held responsible for the present centrifugal tendency within the party."

The paper also blamed the minority parties for their insistence on holding the number of seats promised them. "During the recent elections, the system of one party surrendering seats to others was adopted. But it was found that many members of the Young China Party and of the Democratic Socialist Party to whom successful Kuomintang candidates are to surrender their seats do not command the respect of the people. Some of them are persons of doubtful personal integrity. So far as the future of democracy in China is concerned, this is decidedly not a blessing either to the state or to the people."

* * *

Japan

According to the *Tung Nan Jih Pao*, United States' efforts to build up Japan have become more positive, presenting a striking contrast to the piecemeal aid to China.

"As the result of the intensification of the conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union, it is inevitable that the United States should hasten the rebuilding of Germany and Japan. In connection with the recovery of Germany, there is a plan for Europe's recovery as a whole; but in the recovery of Japan, the only assurance has been that it will not endanger the economy of other countries in the Far East.

"So far as China is concerned, the proposed aid to China has been delayed, discussed and reduced. In addition there has been quite a lot of unjustified criticism of China. The proposed aid for Japan calls for the spending of US$580,000,000 in the first year. The aid will continue for a period of five or six years on a gradually reduced scale. Yet, China still supports this plan. We are certainly ignoring the security of our nation and the welfare of the Far East too much."

Sharing the same view, the *Sin Wen Pao* wrote: "Recent events indicate that the United States has now openly taken the course of helping Japan to recover and that she has been taking positive steps in this direction....Not long ago it was reported that the US Department of the Army proposed that a loan of US$760,000,000 be extended to Japan to enable her to buy American raw cotton and to give relief to Japanese civilians. During the latter part of last month, Under Secretary of the Army Draper personally went to Japan to investigate the situation and confer with General Douglas MacArthur. Draper expressed the hope that Japan would become the "workshop of the Far East" and suggested that the reparations program be made as liberal as possible. The crafty Japanese certainly will not let this opportunity slip. So the Ashida Cabinet lost no time in changing Katayama's five-year plan to a three-year plan and asked for a loan of US$3,000,000,000. There are people in Congress who want to extend the Marshall Plan to include Japan. All these developments made us apprehensive....

"Now that United States' policy toward Japan has developed to such a stage, we really cannot remain silent any longer. During the past two years we have consistently opposed General MacArthur's occupation policy. United States' policy in China is getting more and more dangerous. The problem of Japanese war criminals is no longer mentioned. The reparations program is being 'liberalized.' The order for liquidation of the Zaibatsu interests has been virtually cancelled. Japanese fascists are being allowed to have their way and even part of Japan's war industries is retained...

"We feel that this way of doing things will encourage the revival of Japanese militarism. We fear that the United States might fall victim to another 'Pearl Harbor'...

"A careful analysis of the US policy shows that in addition to economic reasons, the basic motive behind United States' efforts to build up Japan is that the United States wants to prepare for possible war with Soviet Russia. The more bitter the cold war becomes the more anxious the United States will be to build up Japan. US army officers have openly stated that "when the third world war breaks out Japanese youths will fight shoulder to shoulder with the Americans."

NEW BOOKS OF INTEREST

The New World

MEN OUT OF ASIA: *By Harold Sterling Gladwin, illustrated by Campbell Grant. Whittlesey House, New York, 1947. 145 line-drawings, 5 maps, frontispiece. Reviewed by J.F.P.*

IN this imaginative and hilarious accounting of the populating of the New World, Harold Gladwin has done both archaeology and that branch of anthropology that attempts the reconstruction of prehistory a very great service. To call his book a "popularization" would be to slight it, for Mr. Gladwin's synthesis is in deadly earnest and is solidly researched. Yet, if the book does not prove to be popular, the fault will lie with an apathetic public and not with the author, for a more entertaining reconstruction of American prehistory is unlikely to be found. The collaboration of an inspired cartoonist, Campbell Grant, by itself would have raised a stuffy text to the level of high good humor. Grant and Gladwin together make a team that, it is to be hoped, will do further work.

Two schools of historical reconstructionists have always used the archaeology of the New World as material for battle. The "parallel invention" school religiously believes it probable that two geographically isolated peoples will, in response to similar environmental need, discover identical solutions (spears, for example, or clay pots, or even more complex concepts such as the wheel or arch). The "diffusionist" school, in contradiction, believes with equal religious ferver that geographic isolation is a myth and that where two separate peoples share even so sparse a cultural heritage as flaked stone tools, basket-weaving and throwing-sticks, it is necessary to believe in some connection between the groups. This is, of course, oversimplification, but the two schools exist, strongly defined, and each with its band of more or less rabid disciples. Gladwin stands up and lets himself be counted as a 32nd-degree diffusionist.

In the process of outlining his position, Gladwin may or may not make the reader a convert to his school but he so skillfully cuts the ground out from under the broad ugly feet of the "parallel inventionists" that only a few of the most humorless would now dare to support that viewpoint. If the book achieves no more than this one thing (and Gladwin quite properly presents his own opposite views as an outline for further study rather than a working hypothesis), it will have done a valuable piece of work.

There is no need for the reviewer to exhibit second-hand erudition by picking at the many obvious flaws in Gladwin's own argument. Many of them are speedily dealt with in an introduction by Harvard's grand old man of irascibility, Earnest Hooton. The major point to be made is that if the reader wishes to learn how, with infinite variety, richness and romance, the New World became populated and grew to such greatness that the stumbling Spanish went mad with lust at the sight of it, he need only dig up $4 and proceed to the nearest bookstore. If, moreover, he does not laugh as he learns, he must count himself kin to Gladwin's hypothetical academic opponent, Dr. Phudérick Duddy.

Secret Societies

SWORDS OF SILENCE. *Chinese Secret Societies, Past and Present. By Carl Glick and Hong Shenghwa. Published by Whittlesey House, New York, 1947, 292 pages. U.S.$2.75. Reviewed by Donald Roberts.*

Regarding secret societies it is almost a contradiction to speak of definite information. *Swords of Silence* is a book about Chinese secret societies of some centuries past, chiefly in relation to their political activities. A "mutual aid society" may serve its peaceful purpose until a revolutionary need drives it underground. The Chinese knew this practice long before it was used by Lenin, Mussolini and Hitler. Monasteries have in past times been hotbeds of rebellion. It was a Buddhist monk, Chu Yuan-chang, who drove the Mongols out and founded the Ming Dynasty. When the Manchus came in, the Hung League was a secret organization born to drive them out. Often when conditions were adverse its members separated until a better season. Thus the forces gathered about Hung Hsiu-chuan in the T'ai-ping Rebellion. The Triads, for example, a secret society of Cantonese and Fukienese membership, took Shanghai in 1853. They were independent of Hung Hsiu-chuan and he repudiated them.

Sun Yat-sen's youth followed close upon the suppression of this rebellion, and in his own revolutionary movement he utilized the Ko Lao Hui—"Society of Brothers and Elders"—and built it up into a political party out of which came the Kuomintang. But secret societies did not come to an end with the Republic. Members of the Hung League, say the authors of this book, worked hand in hand with the American Office of Strategic Services during the war against Japan. The authors print as an appendix a "Manifesto" of Chinese Freemasons issued on New Year's Day, calling upon the Kuomintang and Communists to end the Civil War. Here we seem out of the realm of secrecy. *Swords of Silence* is a lively interesting book which gives the reader familiarity with the English names of many secret societies but it adds nothing to the serious study of Chinese revolutionary movements.

Who's Who in China

Wang Chieh-Yao, bridge engineer, specializing in railroad and highway engineering construction; born in Nangpo, Chekiang, 1894; B. S., Tongshan Engineering College, 1915; Fellowship,

(王節堯)

Wang Chieh-Yao

Tsinghua University, 1918; M. C. E., Cornell University, 1919; started career as a student engineer, Tientsin-Pukow Railway; American Bridge Company; engineer, New York Highway Commission; bridge and district engineer, Kiaochow-Tsinan Railway, 1923-36; chief of the Engineering Department, Chekiang-Kiangsi Railway, 1936-39; technical expert in charge of Bureau of Railway Engineering Standards, Ministry of Communications; deputy director, Yunnan-Burma Railway, 1939-42; director, Yunnan-Szechuen Highway Administration, 1944; direcor, Third Regional Office of the National Highway Administration, Canton, and concurrently deputy director-general, National Highway Administration, Nanking; address c/o Third Regional Office, National Highway Administration, Tungshan, Canton, China.

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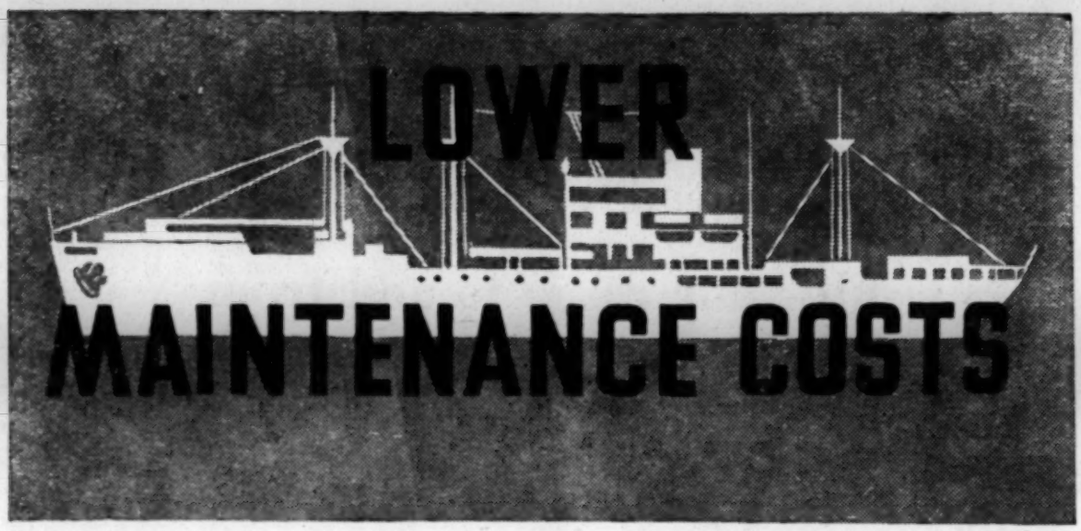

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